

March 15, 2002

PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION OF EVENT OR UNUSUAL OCCURRENCE PNO-II-02-012

This preliminary notification constitutes EARLY notice of events of possible safety or public interest significance. The information is as initially received without verification or evaluation, and is basically all that is known by Region II staff (Atlanta, Georgia) on this date.

Facility

Roadway Express
(Agreement State)
Nashville, TN

Licensee Emergency Classification

Notification of Unusual Event
Alert
Site Area Emergency
General Emergency
X Not Applicable

Subject: MEDIA INTEREST IN TRUCK ACCIDENT

On Friday, March 15, 2002 at 11:30 a.m., the Tennessee Division of Radiological Health notified the NRC of media interest in an accident involving radioactive material packages. The tandem trailer vehicle involved in the accident turned over on its side while traveling along I-65 in Nashville, TN. Part of the shipment consisted of four spent generators used to produce radioactive technetium-99m for medical procedures. The generators had been used and were being returned to the manufacturer. The generators remained inside the trailer and there was no leakage of the contents or damage to the generators.

The State reported that the accident was near a stream, some of the truck's fuel had spilled out onto the ground, and that there was considerable media interest. There were no injuries reported. The State responded to the event and will survey the generators for radiation and proper labeling before releasing them for continued shipment.

Region II received initial notification of this occurrence from the NRC Duty Officer. This information has been discussed with the State and is current as of 1:30 p.m., Friday, March 15, 2002.

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