

March 29, 2002

PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION OF EVENT OR UNUSUAL OCCURRENCE PNO-III-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 the Region III staff on this date.

Facility

Sholle Corporation

Northlake, Illinois

Docket:

License: State of Illinois 9201385

Licensee Emergency Classification

Notification of Unusual Event

Alert

Site Area Emergency

General Emergency

Not Applicable

SUBJECT: Missing Generally-Licensed Gauging Device

DESCRIPTION:

On March 28, 2002, the Illinois Department of Nuclear Safety (IDNS) notified the Headquarters Operations Center that it had received an initial notification from the Sholle Corporation of Northlake, Illinois, of a missing gauging device containing a nominal 100 millicurie americium-241 sealed source. The generally-licensed device is an NDC Infrared Engineering Model 103 gauging device (Serial No. 773).

The americium-241 source is encapsulated and contained within the body of the probe. Therefore, this device does not pose a significant radiological hazard to the public.

The Office of State and Tribal Programs and the Office of Nuclear Materials Safety and Safeguards were notified of the incident. The IDNS continues to monitor the licensee's recovery efforts in locating the missing device.

Region III (Chicago) was notified of the loss at 12:39 p.m. CDT on March 28, 2002, by Headquarters Operations Center following the IDNS notification. The information in this preliminary notification has been discussed with IDNS.

This information is current as of 11:00 a.m. on March 29, 2002.

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