

March 29, 2002

PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION OF EVENT OR UNUSUAL OCCURRENCE PNO-II-02-014

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

Thompson-Arthur Division APAC-Carolina, Inc.

Greensboro, North Carolina

Dockets/License: 041-039

Licensee Emergency Classification

Notification of Unusual Event

Alert

Site Area Emergency

General Emergency

X Not Applicable

Subject: STOLEN PORTABLE GAUGE

On March 28, 2002, the North Carolina Division of Radiation Protection (NCDRP) notified NRC's Operation Center that a portable gauge had been stolen (Event # 38816). The NCDRP was informed by Thompson-Arthur Division APAC-Carolina, Inc. that a Ford F150 pickup truck containing a moisture/density gauge was stolen from Forsyth County. The truck was stolen at approximately 4:30 (EST) on March 28, after employees left it unattended. The Troxler brand density gauge, Model 4640B (Serial No. 1996), contains a nominal 296 megabequerels (8.0 millicurie) cesium-137 source. The licensee promptly reported the theft to the local police department. The licensee has also issued a press release.

NRC's Operation Center notified Region II of this occurrence by telephone at 7:00 a.m. (EST) on March 29, 2002.

This information has been discussed with the State and is current as of 10:30 a.m. on March 29, 2002.

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