

April 05, 2002

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

<u>Facility</u>	<u>Licensee Emergency Classification</u>
Guardian Automotive, Inc.	<input type="checkbox"/> Notification of Unusual Event
Evansville, Indiana	<input type="checkbox"/> Alert
Docket:	<input type="checkbox"/> Site Area Emergency
License: General Licensee (10CFR 31.5)	<input type="checkbox"/> General Emergency
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Not Applicable

SUBJECT: Lost Static Eliminator Devices

DESCRIPTION:

On April 4, 2002, Guardian Automotive, Inc. of Evansville, Indiana, a general licensee, reported the loss of two static eliminator devices to the NRC Operations Center. Each device contained a nominal 10 millicurie polonium-210 sealed source. The devices were NRD Model P-2021 static eliminators.

The devices were used to air spray plastic parts to reduce the static charge before the plastic parts were painted. The devices were last used in mid-January 2002. An extensive search was conducted to recover the missing devices, but none were found.

The polonium-210 source is encapsulated and contained within the body of the static eliminator. Therefore, this device does not pose a significant radiological hazard to the public.

The State of Indiana and the Office of Nuclear Materials Safety and Safeguards were notified of the event. The information in this preliminary notification has been reviewed with the licensee.

The licensee notified the NRC Operations Center of this event on 2:25 p.m. EST on April 4, 2002. This information is current as of 11:00 a.m. CST on April 5, 2002.

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