

August 28, 2002

PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION OF EVENT OR UNUSUAL OCCURRENCE PNO-II-02-026A

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

Atlantic Drilling Supply
(An Agreement State Licensee)
Orlando, FL
License: 2830-1

Licensee Emergency Classification

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

Subject: GAUGE LOST DURING TRANSPORT RECOVERED

The Florida Bureau of Radiological Health (the Bureau) notified the NRC Operations Center and the Region II office that the portable gauge reported lost during transport on July 3, 2002, had been found. The gauge is a Campbell Pacific Nuclear (CPN), model MC-3, serial number M310800431, containing 370 megabecquerels (10 millicuries) of cesium-137 and 1.85 gigabecquerels (50 millicuries) of americium-241:beryllium as sealed radioactive sources locked inside the gauge. The gauge was picked up for shipment at the licensee's facility in Orlando, FL on July 3, 2002, and was being returned to the manufacturer in Martinez, CA for calibration. The gauge was shipped via Conway Southern Express. As of July 25, 2002, the gauge had not reached its destination in California. The shipment was traced to Jacksonville, FL where paperwork indicated shipment on to the Conway Southern Express facility in Atlanta, GA. No paperwork could be produced indicating that the shipment arrived in Atlanta.

On Friday, August 23, 2002, the licensee reported to the Bureau that the gauge had been located and returned to their Orlando facility. Conway Southern Express reported to the licensee that the gauge was found at their Denver, CO facility. The licensee reported that the shipment was returned unopened and undamaged.

This information has been discussed with the State of Florida and is current as of 11:30 a.m., Wednesday, August 28, 2002.

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