

November 13, 2002

**PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION OF EVENT OR UNUSUAL OCCURRENCE** PNO-II-02-038

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**

Huntington Testing & Technology Inc.  
(An Agreement State Licensee)  
Ghent, KY  
License: 201-551-05

**Licensee Emergency Classification**

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

Subject: RADIOGRAPHER EXPOSURE

The Kentucky Radiation Health & Toxic Agents Branch (the Branch) notified the NRC Operations Center that the licensee had reported an excessive exposure to a radiographer. The radiographer's whole body dosimeter recorded a dose of 48.6 millisieverts (4.86 rems). The radiographer's prior dose is 14 millisieverts (1.4 rems) for this calendar year, bringing the total yearly dose to 62.6 millisieverts (6.26 rems), which exceeds the 50 millisieverts (5 rems) annual limit. The radiographer has been removed from occupational exposure for the remainder of the year.

The exposure occurred on October 8, 2002 at a temporary job site, when the source was not fully retracted following a radiograph. The radiographic camera was an Amersham, Model 660-B, containing 3.81 terabecquerels (103 curies) of iridium-192. The licensee's initial report indicated a failure of the radiographer's survey meter and failure to determine that the source was retracted into the shielded position following a radiograph.

The Branch is conducting an on-site investigation.

Region II received initial notification of this occurrence from the Branch. This information has been discussed with the Branch and is current as of 9:30 a.m., Wednesday, November 13, 2002.

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