

November 25, 2002

PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION OF EVENT OR UNUSUAL OCCURRENCE -- PNO-IV-02-067A

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 IV staff on this date.

Facility

Harrington Geotechnical Engineering
Orange, California
License No.: CA 5657
California Agreement State Licensee

Licensee Emergency Classification

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

SUBJECT: UPDATE - STOLEN PORTABLE GAUGE FOUND

DESCRIPTION:

On November 25, 2002, the California Radiation Health Branch (the Branch) notified NRC's Operations Center that a portable moisture/density gauge previously reported as stolen has been found intact after an investigation by the Anaheim police department.

On November 7, 2002, the Branch had notified NRC's Operations Center of the theft of a Campbell Pacific Nuclear Model MC-3 gauge, containing a nominal 0.37 gigabecquerel (10 millicurie) source of cesium-137 and a nominal 1.1 gigabecquerel (30 millicurie) source of americium-241/beryllium. The licensee reported that the gauge had been stolen from the bed of the licensee's pickup truck on November 6, 2002, in Orange, California.

Region IV received notification of the recovery from NRC's Operations Center on November 25, 2002. Region IV has informed NMSS, OEDO, STP, and Region IV's SLO.

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