November 26, 2002

THIS EVENT IS NOT FOR PUBLIC DISCLOSURE PER AGREEMENT STATE REQUEST UNTIL 12/02/02

PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION OF EVENT OR UNUSUAL OCCURRENCE PNO-II-02-040

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	**Licensee Emergency Classification**
Georgia Department of Transportation	Notification of Unusual Event
(An Agreement State Licensee)	Alert
Tifton, GA	Site Area Emergency
Dockets/License:	General Emergency
	X Not Applicable

Subject: TROXLER MOISTURE DENSITY GAUGE DAMAGED IN TRANSPORTATION INCIDENT

On November 26, 2002, officials of the State of Georgia, Department of Natural Resources, Radioactive Materials Program, advised the Operations Center, and the Region, of a transportation incident, resulting in the damage to a Troxler Moisture density gauge, Model 3041B, Serial No. 6287, containing 10 millicuries cesium-137 (0.37gigabecquerel), and 40 millicuries americium-241 (1.48 gigabecquerel).

On November 25, 2002, between the hours of 2:00 p.m. and 3:00 p.m., EST, officials of the Georgia Department of Transportation, while conducting technical operations with the gauge in the southbound lane of Interstate 75, Tifton, Georgia, a southbound tractor trailer swerved to avoid hitting another vehicle, and in the process, struck and damaged the gauge.

Although the sources were separated from the source rod, field measurements have confirmed that the sources were apparently not breached, and no contamination was detected in the immediate area.

The gauge has been recovered and returned to the Headquarters Office, Georgia Department of Transportation, and will subsequently be returned to the manufacturer for disposal, pending leak test results of the sources.

Currently, no media interest has been expressed in this event, and none is expected.

This information was discussed with the State, and is current as 2:15 p.m. EST, November 25, 2002.

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