

RE: 9184-N

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Release

**SEQUOYAH FUELS**
CORPORATION

May 28, 1991

Certified Mail

Return Receipt Requested

Mr. Robert D. Martin
Regional Administrator
Region IV

U.S. NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

611 Ryan Plaza Drive, Suite 1000
Arlington, Texas 76011RE: License No. SUB-1010; Docket No. 40-8027
Incident of April 28, 1991
10 CFR 20.405 Report

Dear Mr. Martin:

On April 29, 1991 Sequoyah Fuels Corporation (SFC) informed the NRC Region IV that the incident (lightning strike) described herein had occurred; the NRC Operations Center Duty Officer was also notified. In the afternoon of April 28, 1991, a lightning strike caused a temporary power failure to all plant operations. Power was quickly restored to the main process. However, the power distribution system serving ancillary areas was damaged, therefore power to these areas could not be immediately restored. No other associated incidents occurred. A 10 CFR 20.403 notification was made due to the potential for these ancillary areas to be down for greater than 24 hours, and because repair costs could exceed \$2,000.00.

The attached report is submitted pursuant to the requirements of 10 CFR 20.405(a)(1)(iv). Should you have any questions on this matter, please contact me at 918/489-3207.

Sincerely,

Lee R. Lacey
Vice President
Regulatory Affairs

DESIGNATED ORIGINAL

Certified By

LRL:nv

Attachment

xc: Keith E. Asmussen, General Atomics
Charles J. Haughney, NRC - NMSS

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91-1036

SEQUOYAH FUELS CORPORATION

INCIDENT OF APRIL 28, 1991

(10 CFR 20.405)

1. Estimate of each individual's exposure:

The SFC health physics staff has evaluated the situation and determined that it did not contribute any exposure to personnel beyond that encountered during normal operating conditions.

2. Levels of radiation and concentrations of radioactive materials involved:

The incident was not associated with any levels of radiation or concentrations of radioactive materials beyond those encountered during normal operating conditions.

3. The cause of the exposure, levels, or concentrations:

Although no licensed material was involved, a summary of the incident is included here for completeness. A lightning strike occurred at the Sequoyah Facility on April 28, 1991 at about 1550 hours. The strike caused a temporary power failure to all plant operations. Power was restored by 1600 hours to all plant operations except for the raffinate treatment area. The affected equipment included all raffinate treatment, the raffinate sludge centrifuge, combination stream flow monitor and sampler, some security lighting, the north fluoride settling pond pump, Pond 2 power, and the west and south fenceline air samplers.

4. Corrective steps taken or planned to prevent recurrence:

Compensatory sampling of the combination stream for pH and flow rate was initiated promptly. These efforts were discontinued at about 0350 hours on April 29 when the pH meter was discovered to be operating. A grab sample was collected at 0930 hours on April 29.

At about 1110 hours, April 29, a portable generator was connected to supply power to the combination stream flow meter. (Flow was not measured between 0350 and 1110 on April 29.) The generator was used until permanent power to the flow meter and automatic sampler was re-established at about 1630. At about this time power was also restored to the west and south fenceline air samplers.

An eight hour composite sample was collected from the combination stream automatic sampler for each of the evening shift and night shift of April 29. These two samples were submitted with the grab sample collected at 0930 on April 29 as a 24-hour composite sample; analytical results were unremarkable.