

PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION OF EVENT OR UNUSUAL OCCURRENCE--PNO-I-88-57

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 I staff on this date.

Facility:
R. E. Ginna Nuclear Power Plant
Ontario, NY
Docket No. 50-244

Licensee Emergency Classification:
 Notification of Unusual Event
 Alert
 Site Area Emergency
 General Emergency
 Not Applicable

Subject: CONTAMINATED INDIVIDUAL

On May 25, 1988, at approximately 4:30 p.m., an individual exiting the Ginna station protected area was identified to be contaminated. The contamination was identified as the individual passed through an exit monitor at the site guardhouse. Surveys subsequently performed by the licensee's Health Physics staff identified non-removable contamination on the soles of the individual's shoes and on both the inside and the outside of the individual's briefcase. The contaminating isotope was identified as cobalt-60. The licensee is maintaining possession of the contaminated items. Maximum contamination identified was approximately 20,000 counts per minute in a small spot on the outside of the briefcase. No contamination was found on the individual's body.

The subject individual, a contractor from Neutron Products Inc., of Dickerson, Maryland, had not been in any radiologically controlled areas while at the Ginna station. The licensee concluded the individual was contaminated prior to entry to the Ginna station. The licensee surveyed the areas the individual visited on site (office, conference room) and found no traces of contamination.

The Maryland Center for Radiological Health was notified by Region I since Maryland is an Agreement State. They plan to investigate the origin of the contamination and to determine if any followup actions are necessary by Neutron Products Inc. The New York Department of Health was also notified by Region I since the contamination was identified in New York.

Region I will follow the Agreement States activities.

CONTACT: M. Shanbaky J. McGrath
 346-5258 346-5216

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