

PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION OF EVENT OR UNUSUAL OCCURRENCE--PNO-I-89-012

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:	Licensee Emergency Classification:
Rochester Gas and Electric Corporation	<input type="checkbox"/> Notification of Unusual Event
R. E. Ginna Nuclear Power Plant	<input type="checkbox"/> Alert
Ontario, New York	<input type="checkbox"/> Site Area Emergency
Docket No. 50-244	<input type="checkbox"/> General Emergency
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Not Applicable

Subject: CONTAMINATED INDIVIDUAL WITH "HOT PARTICLES"

Region I was notified by Ginna Station on February 24, 1989 at 1:00 p.m. that on February 23, 1989 at approximately 3:30 p.m., an individual exiting the Ginna Station Protected Area was found to be contaminated. The contamination was identified as the individual approached the exit personnel contamination monitor at the site guardhouse. Surveys subsequently performed by the licensee's Health Physics staff identified removable contamination on both the inside and the outside of the individual's clothing (sport jacket and slacks). The contamination was identified as Cobalt-60. The maximum contamination was approximately 10,000 dpm/100 cm².

Later, during detailed survey, the licensee identified three small, discrete, intensely radioactive specks. The specks were Cobalt-60 with the highest activity being 0.22 microcurie, with a calculated potential skin dose rate of approximately one rad per hour.

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 that 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 same individual was involved in a similar contamination event which was identified at Ginna Station on May 25, 1988. (PNO-I-88-57)

The Maryland Center for Radiological Health was notified by Region I since the individual's employer is in Maryland and Maryland is an Agreement State. The State plans 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 State's activities.

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