

May 19, 2004

PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION OF EVENT OR UNUSUAL OCCURRENCE PNO-II-04-002

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.

<u>Facility</u>		<u>Licensee Emergency Classification</u>
Nuclear Fuel Services, Inc.		Notification of Unusual Event
Erwin Facility		Alert
Erwin, TN		Site Area Emergency
Docket: 0700143		General Emergency
License No. SNM-124	X	Not Applicable

SUBJECT: FATALITY OF CONTRACT CONSTRUCTION WORKER AT NUCLEAR FUEL SERVICES, INC.

On May 19, 2004, at approximately 10:45 a.m. (EST) at the Nuclear Fuel Services facility in Erwin, Tennessee, a contract construction worker was crushed by the arm of a back hoe while attempting to initiate a repair. The individual was working on a new construction project that was located within the protected area. The project involved the excavation of concrete and asphalt. The licensee indicated that there was no radiological contamination associated with the work area. Due to the seriousness of the injuries, the individual was transported to the Johnson City Medical Center via helicopter and was later pronounced dead. The licensee informed the State of Tennessee Radiological Health Department at 02:30 p.m. (EST).

The State of Tennessee was informed of the injury by the NRC Region II Office.

NFS, Inc. has received media inquiries regarding this event. The licensee will issue a press release.

The Region II office received initial notification of this occurrence by telephone from the Senior Resident Inspector on May 19, 2004, at approximately 11:00 a.m. (EST). This information presented herein has been discussed with the licensee and is current as of 03:15 p.m. (EST) on May 19, 2004.

CONTACTS: Dan Rich, Senior Resident Inspector, NFS
423-735-0544

William B. Gloersen
404-562-4713