

Full Report

Item Number: PA040005

Last Updated: 10/01/2004

Event Type: LAS - LOST OR STOLEN

Event Cause: NOT REPORTED

Event Date: 09/07/2004

Report Date: 09/07/2004

Licensee/Reporting Party Information:

Name: YORK COUNTY SOLID WASTE AUTHORITY
City: YORK

License Number: NON-LICENSEE
State: PA Zip Code: 17402

Other Information:

| | | | |
|-----------------------------|---|--------------------------|------|
| Reportable Event: | N | Reciprocity: | NONE |
| Atomic Energy Act Material: | N | Abnormal Occurrence: | N |
| Investigation: | Y | Send this Report to NRC: | Y |
| Consultant Hired: | N | Event Closed by State: | Y |

Narrative:

On September 7th, 2004 at 1400 hrs, a municipal waste vehicle caused a radiation monitor alarm at the York County Solid Waste Authority facility (YCSWA) located on Blackbridge Road in York Pennsylvania. In accordance with the facility Radiation Monitoring Action Plan, the vehicle was isolated, and YCSWA representatives performed contamination, dose rate, and isotopic evaluation surveys on the exterior of the vehicle. In addition, the radioactive material was segregated from the waste and identified as "US Army Corps of Engineer Luminous Markers" containing Radium 226. There were 19 markers in all; the dose rate on the aggregate was 20.1 mR/hr contact, 1.0 mR/hr at 30cm, and .112 mR/hr at 1 meter. No loose contamination was detected on the vehicle or the markers. The dose rate on the vehicle while the material was inside was 0.32 mR/hr at 5 cm. The material was secured and stored on site at the YCSWA. PA DEP was notified. The Army Corps of Engineers was contacted and will take possession of the material. Attempts to identify the origin of the waste were indeterminate. The cause of this incident is unknown. No short or long term health effects are expected as a result of this incident since personnel exposures were minimal. This material could have resulted in an unrestricted release to the environment if the receiving facility had processed it in the on site incinerator. The state of Pennsylvania requires all solid waste facilities to have a Radiation Monitoring and Action Plan, which provided an effective barrier against public exposure and environmental contamination. No corrective actions are necessary for the identifying facility. The state considers this event closed.

Corrective Actions:

Action Number: Corrective Action:
1 EQUIPMENT RETURNED TO OWNER FOR REPAIR OR DISPOSAL

Keywords:

MATERIAL LOST AND FOUND
RADIOACTIVE MATERIAL AT INCINERATOR
RADIOACTIVE MATERIAL AT LANDFILL
RADIOACTIVE MATERIAL AT SCRAP METAL FACILITY

Source of Radiation:

Source Number: 1
Form of Radioactive Material: OTHER Radionuclide or Voltage (kVp/MeV): AC-226
Source Use: SELF LUMINOUS Activity: Ci GBq
Manufacturer: US RADIUM CORP
Model Number: UNKNOWN
Serial Number:

Device/Associated Equipment:

Device Number: 1
Device Name: RADIOLUMINESCENT MARKER DISK Model Number: UNKNOWN
Manufacturer: US RADIUM CORP Serial Number: