

Full Report

Item Number: PA070022

Last Updated: 02/12/2008

Narrative:

On October 12, 2007 The DEP was notified of a alarm at the Parks Garbage Service facility in Mount Union PA. A survey of the vehicle produced a reading of 0.6mR/hr on the underside. This was measured with a Ludlum 3/44-9 pancake GM probe. The roll-off was put in a designated area and personnel were called to identify the radioactive material. It was identified by gamma spectroscopy as Ra226. On Monday, October 15, 2007. The roll-off was unloaded and a Ra226 wire described as being about 60" long and 1/4 " thick brown plastic tubing with a brass spring clip at one end was isolated and removed from the trash. This type of wire is believed to be used in the military for off hours work or dark space work. A wipe of the wire produced no removable contamination and the dose rate was measured with the Ludlum pancake probe to be 0.7mR/hr at 30 cm and 20mR/hr at 5cm. The activity was estimated to be 80 micro curies of Ra226. The wire was double bagged and placed into a 5 gallon bucket, shielded with sand, and stored in a secure area until disposal arrangements can be made. Dose measurements on the door of the storage area were measured to be 40 microR/hr above background. Possible safety concerns are exposure. Update 11/29/07. The rope will be shipped by the US Army to EMC in Turlock CA. Update 1/14/08. The rope was shipped on 1/12/08.

Event Date: 10/12/2007

Discovery Date:

Report Date: 10/12/2007

Licensee/Reporting Party Information:

Name: PARKS GARBAGE SERVICE
City: MOUNT UNION

License Number: NA
State: PA Zip Code: 17066-

Site of Event:

Site Name: MOUNT UNION

State: PA

Additional Involved Party:

Name: NA
City: NA

License Number: NA
State: NA Zip Code: NA

Other Information:

Reportable Event:	Y	Reciprocity:	NONE
Atomic Energy Act Material:	N	Abnormal Occurrence:	N
Investigation:	Y	Include in Transfer File:	Y
Consultant Hired:	Y	Event Closed:	Y

Event Type:

LAS - LOST/ABANDONED/STOLEN

Event Cause:

LAS

Cause:

Old Cause: NOT REPORTED

Corrective Actions Information:

Action Number: Corrective Action:
LAS

1 FACILITY ARRANGING FOR PROPER DISPOSAL

Source of Radiation:

LAS

Source Number: 1

Source/Radioactive Material:

Manufacturer: UNKNOWN

Model Number: UNKNOWN

Serial Number:

Old Form of Radioactive Material: OTHER

Old Source Use: UNKNOWN

Radionuclide or Voltage (kVp/MeV): RA-226

Activity: .00008 Ci 0.00296 GBq

Reporting Requirements:

LAS

Reporting Requirement: 20.2201 - Reports of theft or loss of licensed material.

Keywords:

LAS

MATERIAL FOUND AT A WASTE PROCESSING FACILITY

References:

Reference Number:	Entry Date:	Retraction Date:	Coder Initials:	Reference Type:
PA070022	10/18/2007		JSC	PA DEP WEB NOTIFICATION EMAIL