



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY  
NAVAL UNDERSEA WARFARE CENTER DIVISION  
610 DOWELL STREET  
KEYPORT, WASHINGTON 98345-7610

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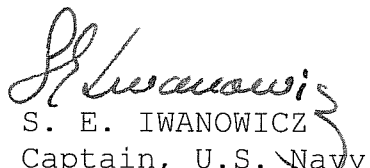
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission Region IV  
612 E. Lamar Blvd., Suite 400  
Arlington, TX 76011-4125

Ladies and Gentlemen:

SUBJECT: LOSS OF LICENSED MATERIAL; EVENT NUMBER 46768 (NUCLEAR  
MATERIALS EVENT DATABASE NUMBER 110172)

The loss of licensed material reportable under Title 10, Code of Federal Regulations, Part 20.2201 involving generally licensed devices was reported to the Nuclear Regulatory Commission in May 2011 as Event Number 46768 or Nuclear Materials Event Database Number 110172. The enclosed report provides subsequent information, as required by Title 10, Code of Federal Regulations, Part 20.2201(d), regarding the recovery of one of these devices.

Sincerely,

  
S. E. IWANOWICZ  
Captain, U.S. Navy  
Commander

Enclosure: 1. Radioactive Material Recovery Report

Radioactive Material Recovery Report  
Naval Undersea Warfare Center, Division Keyport  
610 Dowell Street  
Keyport, WA 98345-7610  
Event Number: 46768  
Nuclear Materials Event Database Number: 110172

Reference (a) Naval Undersea Warfare Center, Division Keyport  
letter to the Nuclear Regulatory Commission:  
Loss of Licensed Material; Event Number 46768 of  
19 May 2011

1. As reported in reference (a), a review of work center operations revealed that for over twenty years, ionizing air nozzles containing Polonium-210 were being used in electronic repair operations to eliminate static charges on sensitive components. These ionizing air nozzles were manufactured by NRD, LLC of Grand Island, NY and were provided as a generally licensed device under a one year lease. Two models of ionizing air nozzles (Models P-2021 and P-2051) were in use, with each device containing 10 mCi of Polonium-210 (an alpha emitter with a half-life of 138 days) at time of manufacture. It was determined that 56 devices were not returned to NRD, LLC from 1990 to 2010, the majority being from years 1994 and 1995. The following serial numbers were identified as unaccounted for and presumed misplaced, lost, or discarded: For Model P-2021: A2GQ241, A2BY498, A2AW678, and A2AQ471. For Model P-2051: 95609, 83722, 79841, 79225, 76422, 76423, 76424, 76425, 76427, 76428, 76429, 76430, 76431, 76432, 76433, 72859, 72860, 72861, 70708, 70709, 70710, 70711, 70712, 70713, 70714, 67850, 67851, 67853, 67854, 67855, 67856, 67857, 67860, 67861, 67862, 67863, 67881, 67882, 67883, 67884, 67888, 56477, 56303, 55244, 46840, 46844, 46914, 46952, 46954, 46963, 38242, and 38348.

2. Subsequent to identifying these components were being used, all in-service devices were removed from the shop floor, and a search was conducted to collect all such devices. The collection of ionizing air nozzles was processed for shipment and then shipped back to the manufacturer, NRD, LLC in May 2011 following the requirements of Title 49, Code of Federal Regulations, Part 173.424.

3. On 10 August 2011, an engineer discovered one ionizing air nozzle in an electrostatic discharge (ESD) protective bubble-wrap bag. Attached to the bag was a MIL-STD 129 tag dated 8/17/2010

Enclosure (1)

identifying the item as an ESD nozzle, Model P-2021, Serial Number A2GQ241. The manufacture date on the device is 03/2009. This nozzle had previously been reported missing in reference (a). The Acting Safety Officer retrieved the device from the shop and placed it in a secure locking cabinet used to store radioactive materials. A wipe sample of the device has been collected and submitted for analysis to NRD, LLC. Upon receipt of satisfactory wipe sample results, the unit will be packaged and returned to the vendor in accordance with Title 49, Code of Federal Regulations, Part 173.421.

Enclosure (1)