

Specialty Materials

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November 23, 2011

Attention: Document Control Desk
Director, Office of Nuclear Material Safety Safeguards
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, D.C. 20555-0001

Docket No. 40-3392
License No. SUB-526

Subject Honeywell Metropolis Works 30-Day Written Follow-Up Report
Event No. 47398

The Honeywell Metropolis Works facility (MTW) reported to the NRC Operations Center in accordance with 10 CFR 40.60(b)(3) an event that required unplanned medical treatment at a medical facility of an individuals with spreadable radioactive contamination on an individual's clothing. This letter is a follow-up report to address specific items required by 10 CFR 40.60(c)(2).

NRC Event Number 47398 dated November 1, 2011

The following information was provided in the 24 Hour NRC Telephone Report:

Description of the Event:

Date/Time: November 1, 2011, 0845.

A person working in an office area began feeling excessive heartburn and nausea. The individual was taken to the site dispensary for evaluation. An ambulance was requested to take the employee to the hospital for further evaluation. The employee had contamination on his coveralls and boots. Before leaving the site for the hospital, the employee's plant clothing was removed and the individual was surveyed. There was no detectable contamination on the employee when he was transferred to the hospital.

NRC Region II informed: Richard Gibson, Senior Fuel Cycle Inspector.

Reporting Requirement: 40.60(b)(3) Unplanned Medical Treatment at a Medical Facility of an individual with spreadable contamination.

Isotope, Quantities and Chemical Form:

U₃O₈ Uranium Ore Concentrate, Natural Uranium.

Personnel Radiation Exposure Data (if applicable):

None.

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10 CFR 40.60(c)(2) written 30-day follow up report required sections

(2)(i) A description of the event, including the probable cause and the manufacturer and model number (if applicable) of any equipment that failed or malfunctioned.

On 11/01/2011, at approximately 0845, a person working in an office area began feeling excessive heartburn and nausea. The individual was taken to the site dispensary for evaluation. An ambulance was requested to take the employee to the hospital for further evaluation. Radiological surveys of the employee in the dispensary showed contamination of his coveralls and boots. The highest contamination levels were estimated at: 3,439 dpm/100 sq. cm for the employee's coveralls and 296,920 dpm/100 sq. cm for the boots. Before leaving the site for the hospital, the employee's plant clothing was removed and the individual was surveyed. There was no detectable contamination on the employee when he was transferred to the hospital.

(2)(ii) The exact location of the event.

The individual was initially taken for evaluation to the plant dispensary located within the restricted area boundary.

(2)(iii) The isotopes, quantities, and chemical and physical form of the licensed material involved.

The isotope involved was natural uranium in the form of U_3O_8 , which was in the form of spreadable contamination on employee's plant issued coveralls and boots. The highest contamination levels were estimated at: 3,439 dpm/100 sq. cm for the employee's coveralls and 296,920 for the boots.

(2)(iv) Date and time of the event.

The incident occurred at approximately 0845 on November 1, 2011, and the 24-hour report was submitted on November 1, 2011, at approximately 1356.

(2)(v) Corrective actions taken or planned and the results of any evaluations or assessments.

The following actions were taken in response to this and several other events reported to the NRC in 2011 in accordance with 10 CFR 40.60(b)(3):

1. The dispensary is surveyed daily.
2. The on-site medical facility is cleaned routinely. Additional cleaning can be requested as required.
3. An email communicating that when possible, decontaminate personnel prior to them being admitted to the dispensary was sent by 4/15/2011.
4. Instructions on monitoring potentially contaminated injured individuals in the site's dispensary and documenting associated radioactive contamination surveys were developed and distributed to Health Physics personnel on 3/22/2011.
5. Additional guidance for on-site locations of injury treatment activities was developed and communicated to all Health Physics staff on 4/6/2011.

6. Guidance for documenting contamination surveys was incorporated into Health Physics procedures by 8/30/2011.

(2)(vi) The extent of exposure of individuals to radiation or to radioactive materials without identification of individuals by name.

N/A.

Please contact Mr. Michael Greeno, Regulatory Affairs Manager, at (618) 309-5005, if you have questions or comments regarding this matter.

Sincerely,

Larry A. Smith (for LAS)

Larry A. Smith
Plant Manager

cc: Regional Administrator
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