LICENSEE EVENT REPORT EVALUATION FORM

EVENT CLASS: LKS - LEAKING SEALED SOURCES

LICENSEE / REPORTING PARTY INFORMATION:

Licensee/Reporting party name:	Department of Commerce NOAA/PMEL		
License number :	46-23463-01		
Docket number :	030-22218		
Licensee's City of record :	Seattle		
Licensees State of record :	Washington		
NRC regulated?	Yes	If so, what Region?	IV
Working under reciprocity?	N/A		

EVENT INFORMATION:

In what City and State did the event occur?	Seattle, Washington
Event date :	03/23/2012
Discovery date :	03/25/2012
Report date :	05/07/2012
Agreement State reportable?	No
NRC reportable?	Yes
Reporting regulation :	30.50(c)(2)
NMED Item Number :	

ADDITIONAL PARTIES INVOLVED:

Name :	
License number :	
City :	
State :	

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CONSULTANT INFORMATION (if any):

Consultant name :	
Company :	
Who hired consultant?	

DEVICE INFORMATION:

Manufacturer :	Hewlett Packard ECD
Model number :	18713A
Serial number :	H1426

RADIATION SOURCE INFORMATION:

Isotope :	ni-63	
Activity :	0.010 Ci	
Manufacturer :	NR	
Model number :	NR	
Serial number :	NR	

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NARRATIVE EVENT DESCRIPTION:

On March 23, 2012, the licensee conducted a routine leak test on a Hewlett Packard Electron Capture Device (ECD) (Model 18713A) that was in placed in storage on December 9, 2011. The licensee sent the wipe tests to the RSO International and received the leak test results on March 28, 2012, which showed that one of the detectors, serial number H1426, had 0.038 microcuries external contamnation wiped from the outlet port, above the 0.005 microcurie regulatory limit of 10 CFR 31.5(c)(5), from the second wipe. The first wipe from the same outlet port was only 0.0004 microcuries, below the 0.005 microcurie regulatory limit. The detector had been removed from the gas chromatograph on December 9, 2011, for the purpose of retiring this detector. This ECD passed previous wipe tests conducted May 11, 2011, November 5, 2011 and December 9, 2011. At the time of the positive test, the detector had been stored with the inlet and outlet ports capped and sealed in a paint can since December 9, 2011 and stored in a locked lead-lined cabinet.

CORRECTIVE ACTIONS:

The licensee performed a routine wipe on April 24, 2011 in preparation for shipping the ECD to C.J. Bruyn and Company for disposal. There was a delay in since the March 29, 2012 report due to the difficulty in reaching C.J. Bruyn (WA license number WN-10523-01) to coordinate the ECD disposal shipment. The April 24, 2012, wipe test had 0.010 microcuire external contamination level. A second wipe performed at the outlet port on May 2, 2012, showed 0.0001 microcurie external contamination level. Tests on the outside of the storage paint can showed undetectable levels. On May 2, 2012, the sealed storage paint can containing the detector was turned over to C.J. Bruyn for disposal. The licensee will forward the relinquishing and final disposal disposition documents to the NRC when they receive them. On May 5, 2012, C.J. Bruyn & Co. documented the receipt of the ECD and the leak test result of <.005 microcuries.

RECOMMENDED FOLLOWUP:

Was a reactive inspection conducted?	No	If so, inspection report number :	
Is LER recommended for closure?	Yes		

Is this NMED Item Number recommended to reflect "complete"?	Yes

LER Evaluator:	Branch Chief or Designee Review:
Name: Latricha Hansen Date: 5/24/12	Name: [signature] Date: 6/2/2012