

Ciner Wyoming LLC

254 County Road 4-6
Green River, WY 82935
Phone: 307-875-2600



30-06803

February 28, 2017

ATTN: Licensee Event Report Manager
Division of Nuclear Materials Safety
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Region IV
1600 E. Lamar Blvd.
Arlington, TX 76011-4511

ATTN: Document Control Desk, Director
Office of Nuclear Material Safety and
Safeguards
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, DC 20555-0001

RE: Event 52562 Written Report

Ciner Wyoming LLC hereby submits the written report within 30 days of reporting of the event 52562 per 10 CFR 30.50(b)(2) & (c)(2). Ciner Wyoming LLC is located at 254 County Road 4-6, Green River, Wyoming 82935.

While performing the semi-annual inventory inspections, it was discovered that two shutters on fixed nuclear gauges were not functional. This was the first round of semi-annual inventory inspections since obtaining an NOV letter on January 11, 2017 from the NRC Inspection 030-06803/2016-001. The NOV stated that Ciner failed to perform shutter operability checks on the fixed gauges every six months. The probable cause of the failed operability of the shutters was most likely due to the lack of performing shutter checks for the last six years.

Berthold Technologies model LB7440D shutter on serial number FN-782-14-11-97, holding 20 mCi of Cs-137, has the shutter stuck in the open position. The gauge is in operation and in use on a pipe, reading density. It was reported to the RSO on February 16, 2017 at approximately 3:00 pm. Berthold Technologies model LB7440D shutter on serial number FR441-22-01-98, holding 50 mCi of Cs-137, has the shutter locked in the open position. The gauge is in operation and in use on a pipe, reading density. It was also reported to the RSO on February 16, 2017 at approximately 3:00 pm. The locking mechanism is packed with tailings mud and the key will not turn to unlock the shutter. It is assumed the shutter was accidentally locked during a line break where the area the gauge is located filled with tailings mud.

The manufacturer of the devices, Berthold Technologies, was contacted February 16, 2017, after the RSO found out about the shutter malfunction. Currently, Ciner is working with Berthold to have a technician come out to the site and repair and/or replace the failed components of the gauges. To prevent this from occurring in the future, Ciner is making sure that the semi-annual inventories include shutter operability checks, as required by the regulation.

There was no exposure of any individuals to radiation or radioactive materials. Both gauges are still affixed to their perspective pipes and reading densities.

Please let me know if you have any questions at huckfeldt@ciner.us.com or 307-872-7207.

Sincerely,

Hilary Huckfeldt
Environmental Specialist
Radiation Safety Officer

CC: K. Green
S. Leffers
Ciner File Copy

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