



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
REGION V
SUITE 202, WALNUT CREEK PLAZA
1990 N. CALIFORNIA BOULEVARD
WALNUT CREEK, CALIFORNIA 94596

February 2, 1979

Docket No. 70-754

General Electric Company
Vallecitos Nuclear Center
Vallecitos Road
Pleasanton, California 94566

Attention: Mr. R. W. Darmitzel, Manager
Irradiation Processing Operations

Gentlemen:

The enclosed Information Notice No. 79-02 is forwarded to you for information. No specific action is requested and no written response is required. If you desire additional information regarding this matter, please contact this office.

Sincerely,

R. H. Engelken
for R. H. Engelken
Director

Enclosures:

1. IE Information Notice No. 79-02
2. List of IE Information Notices
Issued in 1979

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UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
OFFICE OF INSPECTION AND ENFORCEMENT
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555

February 2, 1979

IE Information Notice No. 79-02

ATTEMPTED EXTORTION - LOW ENRICHED URANIUM

Description of Circumstances:

This notice provides information concerning an alleged theft of low-enriched uranium from the General Electric plant in Wilmington, North Carolina.

On Monday, January 29, 1979, the plant manager received a letter demanding \$100,000 for the return of the material purported to be stolen and which set a deadline of February 1, 1979, for delivery of the money. During the course of the week, the FBI conducted an intensive investigation leading to the arrest on February 1, 1979, of a temporary employee of a General Electric subcontractor.

Also on February 1, the material was recovered and returned to the plant. Inquiries are continuing in an effort to determine the method used by the individual to remove the material from the plant.

This event could possibly provoke similar behavior on the part of other persons. Consequently, you should be aware of such an eventuality and take steps to deal with it, should it occur. NRC is not placing additional requirements on you, but is advising that extra caution be exercised in your existing security program.

No action is requested of you and no written response to this Information Notice is required. If you desire additional information regarding this matter, contact the Director of the appropriate NRC Regional Office.

If you have any further questions, please feel free to contact this office.

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IE Information Notice No. 79-02
February 2, 1979

LISTING OF IE INFORMATION NOTICES
ISSUED IN 1979

Information Notice No.	Subject	Date Issued	Issued To
79-01	Bergen-Paterson Hydraulic Shock and Sway Arrestor	2/2/79	All power reactor facilities with an OL or a CP