

PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION OF EVENT OR UNUSUAL OCCURRENCE--PNO-I-88-117

This preliminary notification constitutes EARLY notice of events of POSSIBLE safety or public interest significance. The information is as initially received without verification or evaluation, and is basically all that is known by the Region I staff on this date.

Facility:
 Combustion Engineering, Inc.
 Windsor, Connecticut
 License No. 06-00217-06
 Docket No. 30-03754

Licensee Emergency Classification:
 ___ Notification of Unusual Event
 ___ Alert
 ___ Site Area Emergency
 ___ General Emergency
X Not Applicable

Subject: RECEIPT OF CONTAMINATED PACKAGE

On November 9, 1988, the licensee reported to NRC Region I that a contamination survey of a box of equipment received on November 7 resulted in a single contamination measurement of 50,000 dpm/100 cm². No other wipes revealed any abnormal contamination levels. The box was shipped in an exclusive-use vehicle from a reactor facility, Arkansas Nuclear One, Russellville, Arkansas. The box arrived with the lid loosely in place and with no evidence that the box had been banded prior to shipment. The initial radiation survey by the licensee on November 7 indicated a maximum radiation level of 10 millirem per hour (mrem/hr) on the surface of the box and no removable contamination. The surveys performed at the reactor facility, which were recorded and sent to the licensee with the shipment, indicated a maximum radiation level of 960 mrem/hr at the surface of the box and no removable contamination. The elevated contamination levels were measured by the licensee on November 9 during additional surveys to identify possible "hot particles". The licensee is investigating to determine whether the measured removable contamination represents loose contamination or a single "hot particle". No contamination was found by the licensee in the vehicle after the shipment was unloaded. Region IV has been informed and will review the actions of the reactor facility with regard to the shipment. The licensee reported the incident in accordance with 10 CFR 20.205(b)(2), which requires the reporting of removable contamination on packages in excess of 22,000 dpm/100cm². The State of Connecticut has been informed.

Region I will continue to monitor the licensee's actions. This information is current as of 4:00 p.m., November 9, 1988.

CONTACT: Costello Kinneman Joyner
 346-5275 346-5252 346-5251

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