

PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION OF EVENT OR UNUSUAL OCCURRENCE--PNO-I-89-100

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:
TEI Analytical Service, Inc.
Docket No. 030-29882
Washington, Pennsylvania

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

Subject: REPORT OF RADIOGRAPHY HAND OVEREXPOSURE

While performing radiography at Gould City, Michigan about 1700 on December 14, 1989, an assistant radiographer failed to completely retract the radiography source to the safe/shielded position, failed to perform an adequate survey and as a result, his dosimeter went off scale. The source was 68.7 curies of Iridium-192.

The licensee's dosimetry vendor reports a whole body dose of 578 millirem for the period December 1-18, 1989. The licensee estimates an exposure of 72 rem to the right small finger. Re-enactments indicate that the radiographer's hand was 1½ inches from the source for about 10 seconds. The individual has been removed from radiation work.

The estimated hand exposure exceeds the NRC's quarterly extremity exposure limit of 18.75 rem allowed by 10 CFR 20.101.

The States of Pennsylvania and Michigan have been notified. Region I was informed of this occurrence by the Headquarters Duty Officer on December 15, 1989. Region I has notified Region III.

The information is current as of 10:00 a.m. December 18, 1989. Region I will follow this incident.

CONTACT: David Collins
346-5094

John Miller
346-5304

DISTRIBUTION:

OWFN
Chairman Carr
Comm. Roberts
Comm. Rogers
Comm. Curtiss
Comm. Remick

MNBB
AEOD
IRM
OIG

L-St.
PDR

NL
RES

Mail: ADM:DMB
DOT:Trans only
NRC Ops Ctr _____

CA EDO
OGC NMSS
GPA NRR
PA OE
SLITP

Phillips
ACRS

Regional Offices _____

INPO----
NSAC----

RI Resident Office _____

EWW
ASLAP

Licensee: _____
(Reactor Licensees)

Region I Form 83
(Rev. April 1988)

1230
E-34