Date: 6/2/80

PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION OF EVENT OR UNUSUAL OCCURENCE -- PNO-III-80-108

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

Licensee: University of Wisconsin

Madison, WI

License No. 48-09843-31

Event:

APPARENT 8.63 REMS WHOLE BODY EXPOSURE

Region III (Chicago) was informed that a whole body dosimeter worn by a radio-therapy technician for April 15, 1980, to May 14, 1980, at the University of Wisconsin, showed a dose of 8.63 rems. The individual was working at the Co-60 teletherapy facility during this period.

The University states that the technician can recall no incident that could have resulted in an exposure of this magnitude. A co-worker's badge for the same period showed 30 millirems. The technician's highest previous exposure amounted to about 400 millirems per month. The University is performing a medical examination of the individual. However, it is unlikely that a medical examination could show any effect at an exposure of this magnitude.

The NRC does not plan a press release at this time. The State of WI has been notified.

Region III was informed of this incident at 4:15 p.M. (CDT) on Friday, May 30, 1980, by the University Health Physicist. The Headquarters duty officer was informed at 5:00 p.m. (CDT) on Friday, May 30, 1980. The region will conduct an investigation of this exposure.

Contact: C. J. Paperiello, RIII, 384-2511; A. B. Davis, RIII, 384-2510.

Distribution: Transmitted H St. 9:46

Chairman Ahearne Commissioner Hendrie Commissioner Gilinsky Commissioner Bradford Commissioner Kennedy

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PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION

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