

PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION

October 1, 1981

PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION OF EVENT OR UNUSUAL OCCURRENCE -- P: 7-IV-80-33

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 on this date.

FACILITY: State of Montana

SUBJECT: RAILWAY ACCIDENT INVOLVING RADIOACTIVE MATERIAL

A railway accident on September 29, 1980, near Bainville, Montana, involved a shipment of three (3) 100 mCi Sr-90/Y-90 sources. The sources were contained in a piggyback truck trailer on a flat car. The trailer is reported to be intact but heavily damaged. Other wreckage must be cleared away before the trailer and sources can be surveyed. The trailer is not expected to be accessible until the end of the week. The State of Montana has performed a preliminary evaluation at the scene and surveys indicated no detectable contamination. Additional surveys are planned when sources are accessible.

Region I received notification of the accident from the licensee shipper, Department of the Army, Fort Monmouth, New Jersey (LN 29-01022-08), on September 29, 1980.

There is no known publicity noting that radioactive material was involved in the accident.

Contact with the State of Montana is continuing.

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