PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION

Date: 5/29/80

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PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION OF EVENT OR UNUSUAL OCCURENCE -- PNO-III-80-102

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: Illinois Department of Transportation Springfield, IL License No. 12-09116-03

MOISTURE DENSITY GAUGE RUN OVER BY TRUCK Event:

Region III (Chicago) was informed that a State of Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT) truck ran over a IDOT moisture density gauge containing 10 millicuries of Cs-137 and 50 millicuries of Am-241 (Be) in a sealed source. This event occurred on Highway 16 about 3 miles south of Witt, Illinois. This is about 30 miles SSE of Springfield, IL.

The initial report indicated that the source was ruptured. However, two State inspectors from the State Bureau of Radiological Health with alpha, beta and gamma survey equipment verified that the source was intact. The source and damaged gauge were returned to Springfield last night.

There is no known media involvement and Region III does not plan a press release. State notification was not required as all relevant state agencies were involved prior to NRC notification.

Region III received initial notification of the event from a representative of the State Bureau of Radiological Health at 4:15 p.m. CDT on May 28, 1980. At 5:20 p.m. CDT Region III was notified that the source was intact. The Headquarters Duty Officer was informed of the incident at 5:00 p.m. CDT on May 28, 1980, and updated at 5:30 p.m. Region III will follow up to ensure the source is leak tested.

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

Distribution: Chairman Ahearne Commissioner Gilinsky Commissioner Kennedy

Transmitted: MNBB 9:18 P. Bldg. 9:20 W. J. Dircks, EDO H. R. Denton, NRR C. Michelson, AEOD J. J. Fouchard, PA N. M. Haller, MPA R. G. Ryan, OSP H. K. Shapar, ELD

Regional Offices PJ 9:27 RI 9:30 PT 10:25 - 3. M

Transmitted H St. 9:07 Commissioner Hendrie Commissioner Bradford

> R. H. Vollmer, NRR R. J. Mattson, NRR D. F. Ross, NRR D. Eisenhut, NRR S. H. Hanauer

> > Willste Bldg.9:23 J. G. Davis, NMSS R. J. Budnitz, RES

PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION

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