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PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION

September 8, 1980

PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION OF EVENT OR UNUSUAL OCCURRENCE -- PNO-IV-80-29A

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: DePaul Hospital
Cheyenne, Wyoming
License No. 49-13636-01

SUBJECT: UPDATE OF PNO-IV-80-29, LOSS OF A TECHNETIUM-99m GENERATOR

A Region IV inspector investigated on September 5, 1980, the loss of a 880 millicurie Tc generator which was inadvertently discarded in the hospital's trash. Although the device was never found, the inspection disclosed that there is reasonable assurance that the generator was disposed of in the municipal sanitary landfill and is covered with at least ten feet of refuse. No hazard to the public is expected from the short half-life materials.

There was no known media publicity at the time of the investigation.

Appropriate enforcement action is pending.

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