

PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION

2204  
10/24

October 24, 1980

PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION OF EVENT OR UNUSUAL OCCURRENCE -- PNO-IV-80-38

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: Mineral Exploration, Sweetwater, Wyoming

SUBJECT: URANIUM MILL FIRE

A fire occurred at 4:10 p.m., mst on October 23, 1980 at the Mineral Exploration Uranium Mill's final product processing area. This portion of the mill was still under construction and had not processed any licensed material. About six generally licensed gauge sources in the area of the fire were surveyed and indicated no leakage. About 3000 tons of ore had been processed through the head end of the mill which was not involved in the fire. The fire started from welding operations in the area and damage is estimated to be between two and three million dollars. No injury to personnel occurred.

There has been local media notification by the licensee.

The State of Wyoming has been notified.

Region IV (Arlington) received notification of the incident from the licensee's RSO by telephone at 2:10 p.m. on October 24, 1980.

Contact: G. D. Brown, 334-3475

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