DCS No. 306415-810306

Date: March 6, 1981

PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION OF EVENT OR UNUSUAL OCCURRENCE--PNO-I-81-33

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: "Consolidated X-Ray Services Houston, Texas (DN 30-6415) License No. 42-08456-02

Subject: Personnel Contamination

About 9:00 a.m. on March 5, 1980, two employees from the licensee's field office in Woodbridge, New Jersey arrived at Indian Point II (DN 50-247) to perform radiography. Due to a main computer problem, personnel were required to enter through a different entrance and pass through a portal radiation monitor. The monitor alarmed when the two individuals attempted to enter. Surveys by plant personnel indicated the clothing and shoes of both individuals were contaminated with up to 7000 counts per second of cobalt-60. Contaminated clothing was confiscated by Indian Point personnel.

The two individuals reported that they had been involved with a leaking cobalt-60 radiography source in December 1980. The licensee had reported the leaking source to the NRC as required and had reported that Gamma Industries of Baton Rouge, Louisiana had been engaged to decontaminate the facility and perform appropriate surveys. The licensee had further reported that complete decontamination had been accomplished. Inspectors have been dispatched to Consolidated X-Ray's Woodbridge, New Jersey office.

NRC will consider a press release when the inspector reports back from the licensee. Region I will respond to media inquiries. The State of New Jersey has been informed.

The Indian Point Resident Inspector was informed of this occurrence on March 6, 1981.

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R. G. Smith, SD IE:TAS Document Mgt. Br. S. Ebbin, NSOC