

PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION OF EVENT OR UNUSUAL OCCURRENCE PNI-9412A

This preliminary notification constitutes EARLY notice of events of POSSIBLE safety or public interest significance. The information is as initially received without verification or evaluation, and is basically all that is known by the Region I staff on this date.

Facility:
Delaware State University
1200 N. DuPont Highway
Dover, Delaware 19901

Licensee Emergency Classification:
 Notification of Unusual Event
 Alert
 Site Area Emergency
 General Emergency
 Not Applicable

Docket No.: 030-31282
License No.: 07-11781-05
Event No.: N/A
Event Location Code: MAT

Subject: THEFT AND RECOVERY OF TRITIUM ILLUMINATED SIGNS (UPDATE)

On February 10, 1994, a contractor for Delaware State University informed the NRC Region I office that fifty-four BetaLux "exit" signs containing approximately 20 curies of tritium each were missing from New Residence Hall, an on-campus student housing facility. Region I issued a Confirmatory Action Letter on February 10, 1994, and the licensee agreed to conduct an investigation and search for the missing signs, to issue a letter informing the university community of the hazards of the signs and directing that they be returned, and to issue a press release. As of February 15, 1994, thirty signs have been returned to the licensee.

Region I will continue to follow the progress of the licensee in the recovery of the signs. The Region I Office of Public Affairs issued a press release on February 14, 1994, and is prepared to respond to media inquiries. This information is current as of 3:00 p.m., February 15, 1994.

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