

February 28, 1994

PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION OF EVENT OR UNUSUAL OCCURRENCE PNO-II-94-011

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 II staff on this date.

Facility

(Agreement State Licensee)  
Scientific Ecology Group, Inc. (Seg)  
Oak Ridge, Tennessee

Licensee Emergency Classification

Notification of Unusual Event  
Alert  
Site Area Emergency  
General Emergency  
X Not Applicable

Subject: PRESS RELEASE AS RESULT OF FIRE

The State of Tennessee informed the NRC on February 25, 1994, that Scientific Ecology Group, Inc. (SEG) had reported a fire had occurred at approximately 3:20 pm on February 25, 1994. Flames and smoke emanated from a furnace being charged with metal contaminated with low levels of depleted uranium. This caused a large amount of smoke to be processed through the off-gas system and to be exhausted from the air filtration units. Smoke alarms in the air filtration units initiated an alarm that was directly linked to the Oak Ridge Fire Department. The Oak Ridge Fire Department responded, but the fire had already extinguished when they arrived. The flames in the furnace self-extinguished shortly after the initial reaction.

The licensee reported non-essential personnel were evacuated from the facility. Air samples showed no detectable activity released to the environment. There were no personnel contaminations and no personnel injuries. The facility is expected to resume operation on March 2, 1994, after mi.or repairs to the facility are made.

SEG issued a press release outlining the event.

This information is current as of 1:30 pm on February 28, 1994.

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