

March 14, 1994

PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION OF EVENT OR UNUSUAL OCCURRENCE PNO-II-94-013

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

Mississippi Limestone Corporation
Friars Point, Mississippi
License No: MS-582-01

Licensee Emergency Classification

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

Subject: FIRE DESTROYS THREE TROXLER PORTABLE GAUGES

The Mississippi Division of Radiological Health (MS DRH), an Agreement State, notified NRC, Region II that three portable gauges were destroyed by fire at a licensee's facility located near Friars Point, MS, during the night of March 10, 1994.

The devices were identified as a Troxler Model 3440 surface moisture-density gauge containing 8 millicuries of cesium-137; a Troxler model 4640 surface density gauge containing 8 millicuries of cesium-137; and a Troxler model 3241 asphalt content gauge containing 300 millicuries of americium-241/beryllium. The devices were destroyed except for the sealed sources.

The local fire department (Lyons Volunteer Fire Dept.) responded to the warehouse fire, extinguished the fire and established security at the site. The MS DRE arrived on site at about 3:00 a.m., March 11, 1994, conducted surveys, retrieved the sealed source housings, conducted wipe test and secured the sources. The sources were determined to be intact and were not leaking. The wipe tests were also sent to Troxler and confirmed not to be contaminated.

A Troxler's representative will provide a Type A container and assist the licensee in the packaging and shipment of the sources back to Troxler for disposal.

Mississippi reported that the two MS DRH staff members who responded to the event each received less than 10 millirem exposure as determined from pocket dosimeters.

There has been no news media interest.

Contact: R. L. Woodruff
(404)331-5553

~~250051~~

250051

9403280199 940314
PDR I&E
PNO-II-94-013 PDR

0/1
IE34