

WE  
ASD  
September 28, 1990

PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION OF EVENT OR UNUSUAL OCCURRENCE PNO-II-90-53

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: SWVA, Inc.  
(Doing business as Steel of WV)  
Huntington, WV

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

DOCKET NO.: 030-28692

SUBJECT: MELTED CESIUM-137 GAUGE

47-16310-02

The licensee's Radiation Protection Officer notified Region II on 9/28/90 that a 500 millicurie Cs-137 level measuring gauge had been splashed by molten steel on the previous evening. This resulted in melting a hole in the shielding and the housing. The licensee measured an exposure rate of 3 mR per hour at five feet (0.07 mR/hr is normal). The licensee removed and isolated the damaged gauge and will survey for removable contamination. The licensee is making arrangements for a consultant to assist with additional radiological surveys and packaging of the gauge for disposal.

An NRC inspector is enroute to further evaluate the situation.

The State of West Virginia was informed by the NRC.

The NRC received initial notification of this event by telephone from the licensee at 11:10 a.m. (EDT) on 9/23/90.

This information is current as of 1:00 p.m. on 9/28/90.

CONTACT: E. McAlpine  
FTS - 841-5547

DISTRIBUTION:

One White	M'land Nat'l				
Flint North	Bank Bldg	Regions	<u>MAIL TO:</u>	DCS	(Original IE 34)
Chairman Carr	IRM	Region I		DOT	(Transportation Only)
Comm. Rogers	OIG	Region			II
Comm. Curtiss	AE/D	Region III	<u>FAX TO:</u>	INPO	3:08
Comm. Remick	NRC Ops Ctr	Region IV		LICENSEE	(Corporate)
OGC		Region V		RII	Resident
OCA					
GPA/SLITP/PA	Nicholson Lane	Phillips Bldg			
EDO	RES	ACRS			
NRR					
NMSS	L Street	EWV			
OE	PDR	ASLAP			

5520: //90 @ \_\_\_\_\_ TO REGIONS AND HQ  
\*\*\*\*\*

9010110215 900928  
PDR I&E  
PNO-II-90-053 PDC

011  
IE31