

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 staff on this date.

Facility: Victoreen, Incorporated
10101 Woodland Avenue
Cleveland, OH
Lic. No. 34-00486-04
30-5619

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

Subject: SHIPMENT OF 112 MILLICURIE CESIUM-137 SOURCE WITHOUT PROPER LABELS OR SHIPPING PAPERS

A Victoreen, Incorporated Model 848-8 calibrator containing 112 millicuries of cesium-137 was shipped without proper warning labels or shipping papers by the licensee to Indian Point Station, Unit 3 power plant in Region I on September 17, 1982. The shipment was placed in general storage based on the manifest description of "...four skids electronic equipment and/or parts thereof". When the shipment was removed from storage on September 24, 1982 the radioactive calibrator was discovered. A survey of the calibrator, made by the Indian Point Radiation Safety Officer, was reported to have read 12 mR/hr on contact and 0.5 mR/hr at three feet. These levels do not constitute a significant hazard for whole body exposure and the physical size of the unit precludes any other type of exposure.

The Victoreen, Inc. Radiation Safety Officer stated that the licensee had intended to ship the calibration source as a radioactive material shipment; it had been loaded by error in the shipment of electronic equipment.

Region III is considering appropriate enforcement action.

The States of Ohio and New York have been notified.

Region III received notification of this event from the RI Materials Radiation Protection Section Chief by telephone on October 19, 1982, at 8:20 a.m. (CDT). This information is current as of 2:00 p.m. on October 19, 1982.

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