

December 14, 1990

PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION OF EVENT OR UNUSUAL OCCURRENCE PNO-II-90-78A

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: Tennessee River Scrap Company
Calvert City, Kentucky

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

SUBJECT: POTENTIALLY CONTAMINATED SCRAP SHIPMENT

This information updates PNO-II-90-78, dated December 13, 1990.

The materials in question consist of approximately a dozen pieces of wavy metal material measuring about two feet square.

The results of the States survey of the scrap materials at the Tennessee River Scrap Company indicated fixed radiation levels of three mrem/hr. on contact. No loose contamination was detected.

The State has taken swipes and expects to have isotopic results by December 17, 1990.

Presently, the materials are roped off and secured at the Tennessee River Scrap facility.

There is some speculation that these materials were buried somewhere near Cairo, Illinois, and the State is attempting to determine what the materials are where they originally came from.

Some local media interest has occurred. The State does not plan on issuing a press release at this time.

Region II offered technical assistance to the State of Kentucky, but this offer was declined at this time. Also, the State will keep Region II apprised of new information as it becomes available.

Region II coordinated with Regions III and IV, who in turn advised the appropriate authorities in the States of Arkansas and Illinois, respectively.

The NRC received initial notification of this event by telephone from representatives of the Kentucky Health Department on December 12, 1990, and updated information on December 13 and 14, 1990.

This information is current as of 3:00 p.m. (EST) on December 14, 1990.

CONTACT: R. Trojanowski - 841-5597

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IE 34

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FAX TO: INPO - 3:14 P.M.
LICENSEE (Corporate)
RII Resident

5520: 12/14/90 @ 3:00 p.m. TO REGIONS AND HQ
