

July 27, 1993

PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION OF EVENT OR UNUSUAL OCCURRENCE PNO-II-93-030

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

Childress Service Corporation
Beaver, West Virginia

Licensee Emergency Classification

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

Subject: Stolen Nuclear Gauge

At 2:20 p.m., on July 26, 1993, a general licensee in Beaver, West Virginia notified NRC's Region II office that a nuclear gauge (Kay Ray Model No. 3660) containing a 100 millicurie cesium 137 sealed source had been stolen from a locked storage area at a coal preparation plant at Coal Mountain, Wyoming County, West Virginia. The gauge was locked shut and was being stored, not in use at the time it was stolen. The gauge was stolen sometime between July 7, 1993, when it was last checked by a company employee, and July 22, when a company employee noticed it was missing. The gauge was stolen along with an assortment of other equipment and supplies from the same storage area. The licensee filed a report of the theft with local law enforcement officials.

The State of West Virginia and the Commonwealths of Virginia and Kentucky have been notified.

The Company will be issuing a press release to the local media by noon today.

This information is current as of 9:00 a.m., July 27, 1993.

Contact: Michael Fuller
(404)331-3932