

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: Short-Elliott-Hendrickson, Inc.
705 Bay Street
Chippewa Falls, WI 54729
License No. 48-18530-01
30-13833

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

Subject: REPORTED THEFT OF TROXLER DENSITY GAUGE

A Troxler soil density and moisture gauge, Model 3411, Serial No. 8971, was reported stolen from a construction site in Ashland, WI on Monday evening, October 11, 1982. The gauge contains nominally 10 mCi cesium-137 and 50 mCi americium-241 sealed sources (one of each).


The sources were in the shielded position in the gauge and the gauge was inside a transport container. The gauge in its container was stored in a locked construction trailer. The trailer was broken into and the gauge plus several other items were stolen. If the sources are extended into the exposed position, exposure rates would be about 30 mR/hr at one foot and 30 R/hr at one centimeter. With the sources in the retracted shielded position within the gauge housing, exposure rates are between 15 and 20 mR/hr at the surface of the gauge. Significant inadvertent exposure is unlikely because of the physical size of the unit and the attached warning labels.


The licensee will advise RIII (Chicago) if the unit is recovered.

The licensee has not issued a press release, but this matter is being discussed further with them by the Regional Office. RIII (Chicago) does not plan to issue a press release at this time but will answer media inquiries. The local police have been notified.

The states of Minnesota and Wisconsin have been notified.

RIII received notification of this event by telephone on October 12, 1982, at 1:45 PM (CDT). This information is current as of 10:00 AM (CDT) on October 13, 1982.

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DISTRIBUTION:

H. St. <u>1458</u>	MNBB <u>105</u>	Phillips <u>1259</u>	E/W <u>1456</u>	Willste <u>100</u>
Chairman Palladino	EDO	NRR	IE	NMSS
Comm. Gilinsky	PA		OIA	RES
Comm. Ahearne	MPA		AEOD	
Comm. Roberts	ELD	Air Rights <u>101</u>		MAIL:
Comm. Asselstine		SP	INPO _____	ADM:DMB
SECY			NSAC _____	DOT: Trans Only
ACRS	8210190673 821013			
CA	PDR I&E			
PDR	PNO-III-82-110 PDR			
Regions I <u>103</u> , II <u>107</u> , IV <u>104</u> , V <u>102</u>				

Licensee (Corporate Office) _____

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