

PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION OF EVENT OR UNUSUAL OCCURRENCE--PNO-I-91-28

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 I staff on this date.

Facility:
Interstate Nuclear Services Corp.
North Third Avenue
Royersford, PA 19468

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

License No. 37-23341-01
Docket No. 030-20934

Subject: RESCINDING OF PERMIT TO DISPOSE OF SLUDGE FROM THE ROYERSFORD WASTEWATER TREATMENT FACILITY DUE TO RADIOACTIVE CONTAMINANTS.

The Region I office was notified by copy of a letter from the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (PADER) dated April 9, 1991, that they have rescinded the permit of the Pottstown landfill to dispose of sewage sludge generated at the Royersford Wastewater Treatment Facility (RWTF). In their letter PADER states the RWTF sludge is radioactive waste due to the presence of radioactive material reconcentrated from wastewater released to the sewerage system by Interstate Nuclear Services Corporation (INS), a nuclear laundry. The INS facility has been in operation since 1985 in Royersford and the Region I office has inspected the facility frequently. All wastewater released to the sewerage system meets and has met the concentration limits of 10 CFR 20.303. However, because INS produces a large percentage of the RWTF influent, the NRC has contracted with Oak Ridge Associated Universities (ORAU) since 1986 to perform sampling and analysis of effluent from INS and the RWTF, including sludge. Their measurements indicate that radioactive material is reconcentrated by the sewer plant. NRC has made no changes to the INS license because the facility is in compliance with NRC regulations and exposures to specific individuals as estimated by ORAU and Region I are within appropriate guidelines. The Commonwealth of Pennsylvania has been fully informed of the NRC's positions and actions as they were taken. The RWTF states that if they are unable to dispose of sewer sludge, they will be unable to properly treat the wastewater they receive.

A meeting is planned for Thursday, April 18, 1991 between PADER and representatives of the RWTF to discuss disposal options for the sludge. Region I will continue to provide information on request and will monitor the impact of PADER decisions on INS Corporation.

Contact: Betsy Ullrich
346-5040

John Kinneman
346-5252

357
E-3
11

DISTRIBUTION:

<u>OWEN</u> ✓	<u>MNBB</u>	<u>L-St.</u>	<u>NL</u>	Mail: ADM:DMB
Chairman Carr	<u>AEOD</u>		<u>RES</u>	DOT:Trans only
Comm. Rogers	<u>IRM</u>	<u>PDR</u>		
Comm. Curtiss	<u>OIG</u>			NRC Ops Ctr _____
Comm. Remick				

CA	EDO	<u>Phillips</u>	INPO----
OGC	NMSS	<u>ACRS</u>	NSAC----
GPA	NRR		
PA	OE	Regional Offices _____	RI Resident Office _____
	SP		
		<u>EW</u>	Licensee: _____
		<u>ASLAP</u>	(Reactor Licensees)

Region I Form 83
(Rev. April 1988)

DISTRIBUTION:

1NRC1718

Chairman Carr

Comm Roberts

Comm Rogers

Comm Curtiss

Comm Remick

ACRS

CA

PDR

OGC

GPA

OIG

1NRC02/ORDAZ (Please make PA internal distribution)

1NRC1718/DAY (Please make internal Distribution)

1NRC1112/NRRPN (Please make NRR internal distribution)

1NRC0304,HILL (SP, please deliver to C. Kammerer)

1NRC0708,SUMMERS (OE, please deliver to J. Lieberman)

NRCRES,RESPN (Please make internal distribution)

NRCRII,RIIPN (Please make Internal RII distribution)

NRCRIII,RIIIPN (Please make Internal RIII distribution)

NRCRIV,Leadop (Please make Internal RIV distribution)

NRCRV,Leadop (Please make Internal RV distribution)

Region I WPS

Resident Office (Site PC) (If secretary is off FAX)

RI Office Services Section

(Mail to ADM:DMB & DOT (transportation only))

FAX to

INPO

NSAC