

May 10, 1985

PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION OF EVENT OR UNUSUAL OCCURRENCE PNO-II-85-45A

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: Uniroyal Tire Company  
Agreement State Licensee  
Opelika, Alabama

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

SUBJECT: UPDATE ON FOUR MISSING GAUGES WITH RADIOACTIVE MATERIAL

This PN updates PNO-II-85-45 issued on May 1.

Alabama authorities have informed Region II that one of the four gauges missing from the Uniroyal facility in Opelika, Alabama, has been found in a scrap yard about 40 miles away in Alexander City, Alabama. They are continuing to search at this yard and at other yards inside the state where the gauges may have been inadvertently shipped. The devices in question are Kay-Ray Model 7062 level and density gauges used in tire manufacturing. The gauge which was recovered contains 50 millicuries of cesium-137. Still missing are two others with 50 millicuries each and one with 10 millicuries of cesium-137.

Based on a re-review of scrap shipments made from Uniroyal in Opelika, Alabama authorities now have concluded that--contrary to what was thought earlier--no material was sent to scrap yards in Georgia.

Region II is continuing to monitor Alabama's continuing investigation.

The Alabama Bureau of Radiological Health has responded to a media inquiry regarding this matter.

This information is current as of 2 p.m. (EDT) today.

Contact: R. E. Trojanowski, 242-5597

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