

October 28, 1998

PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION OF EVENT OR UNUSUAL OCCURRENCE

PNO-IV-98-049

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 Region IV staff in Arlington, Texas on this date.

Facility

State Of Arkansas Licensee
Anderson Engineering Consultants, Inc.
North Little Rock, Arkansas

Licensee Emergency Classification

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

Subject: MOISTURE DENSITY GAUGE STOLEN FROM CONSTRUCTION SITE
(State of Arkansas Licensee)

On October 28, 1998, Anderson Engineering Consultants, Inc., an Arkansas licensee, contacted the State of Arkansas to inform them of the theft of a portable gauge from a temporary job site in North Little Rock, Arkansas. The licensee discovered upon arriving at the site that the side of a locked metal building had been ripped open and a Model 3411B Troxler gauge previously stored within was missing. The gauge contains an 9-millicurie cesium-137 sealed source and a 44-millicurie americium-241/beryllium sealed source. Law enforcement officials have been notified, and the State has issued a press release.

The State of Arkansas informed the NRC that they plan to notify the NRC Operations Center and to dispatch an inspector to the site. Region IV has informed OSP and NMSS.

This information has been discussed with the State of Arkansas and is current as of 9:45 a.m. (CT), October 28, 1998.

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