



TELECOPY TRANSMITTAL

FROM THE

DIVISION OF RADIATION PROTECTION

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PLEASE DELIVER TO: US NRC - State programs

FROM: ANNA M. WHITE, SECRETARY/RADIOACTIVE MATERIALS SECTION (360) 753-4481

INSTRUCTIONS:

Memo from Terry Freeze, dated NOV. 7, 1997

OUR TELECOPIER NUMBERS ARE:

HAVE A GREAT DAY!!

OLYMPIA: (360) 753-1496
SEATTLE: (206) 464-7081
RICHLAND: (509) 377-3871


SPOKANE: (Stoffel) (509) 456-2997
SPOKANE: (Pike) (509) 456-4425
SPOKANE: (Cameron) (509) 235-2713

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WASHINGTON DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
Division of Radiation Protection
Radioactive Materials Section

November 7, 1997

TO: Selected Sealed Source Manufacturers
All State Radiation Control Programs
US Nuclear Regulatory Commission ✓

FROM:  Terry C. Frazee, Supervisor

SUBJECT: HELP NEEDED TO IDENTIFY UNKNOWN SOURCE MODEL

Recently a Ra-226 source in a source holder went undetected and was subjected to incineration at a "waste to energy" facility in our state. Metals were separated from the ashes for recycling and sent across state to a steel mill where the source was detected and recovered.

We have confirmed that the source is Ra-226, that removable contamination is present, and that approximately 30 to 40 microcuries remains in the source and source holder. We have also determined that it is NOT a neutron source and that the source holder appears to be made of ferrous metal (slight magnetic properties were observed). Attached are approximate scale drawings of the source holder.

Please circulate this information among your knowledgeable staff. Any help (recommendations, possible leads, etc.) you can provide in gathering the following information would be greatly appreciated:

1. Source holder manufacturer?
2. Source holder model number?
3. Location of possible identifying marks?
4. Device models that use this source holder?
5. Types of industries where used?
6. Source manufacturer?
7. Source model number?
8. Possible initial source strength?
9. Suggestions on clearing the "crust" off the surface (to uncover serial numbers, etc.)?

Please feel free to circulate this information to others who may be able to help. If you have any information which could be helpful, please contact me at 360-753-3461 or FAX at 360-753-1496 or e-mail at TCF0303@HUB.DOH.WA.GOV

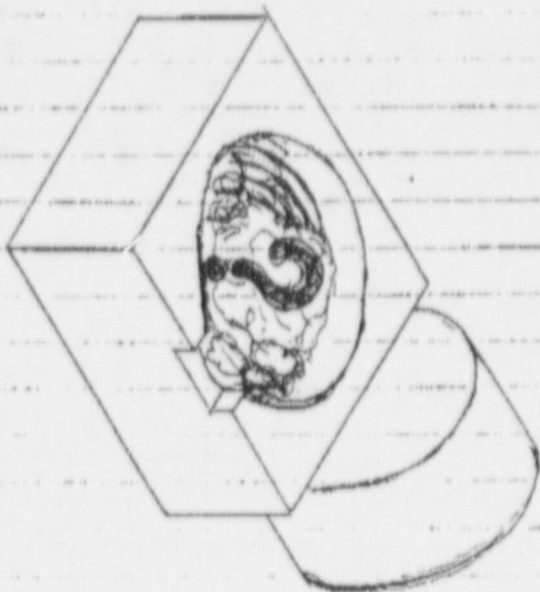
Attachments

WASHINGTON DIVISION OF RADIATION PROTECTION

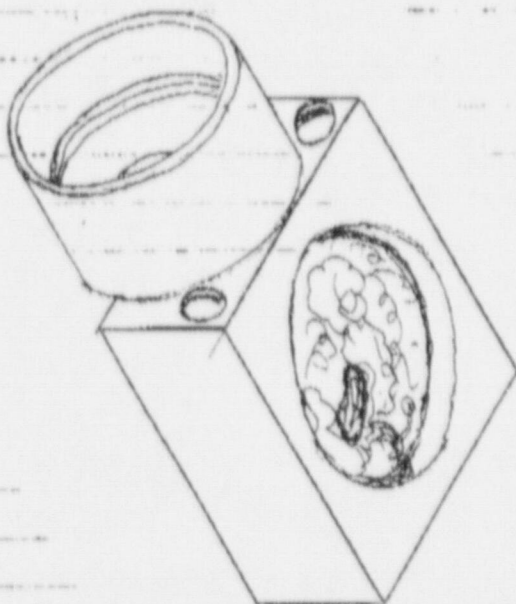
NOVEMBER 7, 1997

CAN YOU IDENTIFY THIS ?

RADIUM SOURCE AND SOURCE HOLDER RECOVERED FROM INCINERATED WASTE !



"ACTUAL" SIZE



WE WOULD APPRECIATE ANY HELP POSSIBLE IN DETERMINING MANUFACTURER, MODEL, DEVICE APPLICATION, ORIGINAL SOURCE STRENGTH, OR LOCATION OF IDENTIFYING MARKS OR SERIAL NUMBER(S).

PLEASE CONTACT US AT 360-753-3Y61 or
E-MAIL TO TCF0303@HUB.DOH.WA.GOV

WASHINGTON DIVISION OF RADIATION PROTECTION

NOVEMBER 7, 1997

IF YOU CAN HELP IDENTIFY THIS ITEM

PLEASE CALL

360-753-3461

SOURCE HOLDER

MFG: UNKNOWN

MODEL: UNKNOWN

DIMENSIONS APPROXIMATE
(IN MILLIMETERS)

SCALE 2X

SOURCE

NOT SHOWN HERE

POSSIBLY PLANCHET OR DISK

30mm dia, 5-10mm thick

Ra-226 CONTAMINATION

APPROX. 40 microcuries

