

PDR Advance Cy Per J Rathie

PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION

February 9, 1978

PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION OF EVENT OR UNUSUAL OCCURRENCE--PNO-78-19A

This preliminary notification constitutes EARLY notice of an event of POSSIBLE safety or public interest significance. The information presented is as initially received without verification or evaluation and is basically all that is known by IE staff on this date.

Licensee: Shelwell Services, Inc.
Rt. 1 Hebron, OH
License No. 34-10445-01

Subject: RECOVERY OF LOST WELL LOGGING SOURCE

Preliminary Notification No. PNO-78-19 of February 2, 1978 described the events surrounding the disappearance of a 2.8 curie Americium 241-Beryllium source and efforts expended by the licensee in the search for the source.

RIII (Chicago) was informed via phone by their inspector on the scene that the source had been found on Interstate Highway 77 near Canton, Ohio on February 8, 1978. It was found by a construction worker, who observed it laying about fifteen feet off to the side of the highway. He picked it up and reported it to local authorities, who in turn informed the search center. The source was identified by the licensee.

Based on conditions at the point of recovery it appears there were no individuals near the source while it was located on the roadside. Initial investigation by RIII personnel reveal four individuals handled the source following recovery. Calculations, based on reenactment of handling associated with the finding of the source, indicate that the doses to the individuals involved appear to be insignificant from a health and safety standpoint.

The source was returned to the licensee's facility on February 8, 1978. The local media was made aware of the recovery of the source.

A Press Release was issued by the State of Ohio describing the recovery.

RIII received above details from their representative at the scene at approximately 5:00 p.m. CST on February 8, 1978.

This matter is considered to be closed.

Contact: GBidinger, IE x28188 LCunningham, IE x28188 LHigginbotham, IE x28098

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Commissioner Gilinsky

Commissioner Bradford
S. J. Chilk, SECY

C. C. Kammerer, CA
(For Distribution)

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E. Volgenau, IE
Region 2:19

(MAIL)
T. J. McTiernan, OIA
R. Minogue, SD

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