

## PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION - NOT FOR PUBLIC DISCLOSURE

January 30, 1976

PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION OF EVENT OR UNUSUAL OCCURRENCE --PNO-76-29

This preliminary notification constitutes EARLY notice of events 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 OIE staff as of 1:15 P. M. on date of this notification. IT SHOULD BE SPECIFICALLY NOTED THAT THIS NOTIFICATION MAY CONTAIN INFORMATION THAT LATER MAY BE DETERMINED TO BE INACCURATE OR INCONSISTENT. AN OFFICE OF INSPECTION AND ENFORCEMENT NOTIFICATION OF AN INCIDENT OR OCCURRENCE (BLUE SHEET) SUBSEQUENTLY WILL BE ISSUED IF WARRANTED.

Facility: Pittway Corporation, BRK Electronics Division, Aurora, Illinois  
License No. 12-15023-1

Subject: POTENTIAL INGESTION OF 2.5 uCi 241 AMERICIUM SOURCE

On January 29, 1976, the licensee's consultant informed IE:III that a female employee for the licensee might have inadvertently swallowed a 2.5 uCi 241 Am source five to seven days ago. The source, a very thin foil approximately 1/16 inch square, consisted of americium oxide plated on a silver foil, which in turn was enclosed in a crimped gold foil. The employee notified her supervisor of the incident when it occurred, but the decision to notify NRC was not made until the return of the Company President on January 29, 1976. Employee has been admitted to Billings Hospital, where she is undergoing urine and fecal analysis and scanning procedures. Assuming normal elimination, the licensee estimates the dose not to exceed 4 rem.

There has been no press release by NRC or Pittway Corporation.

Region III received notification of this occurrence by telephone from the licensee's consultant at 7:00 P. M. on January 29, 1976. This information is up-to-date as of 1:15 P. M., January 30, 1976.

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PDR I&E  
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