

January 13, 2000

PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION OF EVENT OR UNUSUAL OCCURRENCE PNO-IV-00-004

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.

<u>Facility</u>	<u>Licensee Emergency Classification</u>
State of California	Notification of Unusual Event
Goffman, McCormick & Urban	Alert
Rancho Santa Margarita, California	Site Area Emergency
License No: 3674 CA	General Emergency
	X Not Applicable

Subject: STOLEN PORTABLE MOISTURE/DENSITY GAUGE

On January 12, 2000, the California Radiologic Health Branch (CRHB) notified the NRC Region IV office and the NRC Operations Center of the theft of a portable moisture density gauge from Goffman McCormick & Urban, a California Licensee. CRHB received notification of the theft from the licensee. The Police Department in Irvine, California was also notified. The licensee has issued a press release and is offering a reward for the return of the device. The gauge is a Campbell Pacific Nuclear Moisture Density Gauge, Model M (Serial No. 36076956), containing an americium-241/ beryllium source and a cesium-137 source with nominal activities of 1.48 gigabequerels (40 millicuries) and 333 megabequerels (9 millicuries), respectively.

Region IV has informed the OEDO, OSP, NMSS and the I.A.T.

This information has been discussed with the State of California and is current as of 10:50 a.m., January 13, 2000.

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