

Date: Fri, 16 May 2003 10:23:22 -0400

Subject: YELLOW Alert: Missing Hazardous Waste Containing Cyanide

Note from Ames Lab Editor- Suspected loss, theft or diversion of highly dangerous and toxic materials represent a security concern that should be promptly reported to ESH&A at 4-2153 or Plant Protection Section at 4-3483.

The following Bechtel Jacobs Company, LLC Yellow Alert is distributed for review and utilization by other DOE sites and facilities. Please direct any questions to Joanne Schutt at schuttj@pwtor.com , or (865) 483-0554, extension 103.

TITLE: Yellow Alert- Missing Hazardous Waste Containing Cyanide

IDENTIFIER: Y-2003-OR-BJCETTP-0501 DATE: May 15, 2003

LESSON LEARNED STATEMENT: Highly toxic materials such as cyanide, methylene chloride, or mercury could be used by terrorists as weapons of mass destruction. Suspected loss, theft or diversion of highly dangerous and toxic materials represent a security concern that should be promptly reported.

DISCUSSION OF ACTIVITIES: The Office of Inspector General (OIG) recently issued an inspection report regarding an incident in which a container of hazardous waste containing cyanide was suspected of being missing from a shipment. This report pointed out the need for proper identification and prompt reporting of this type of discovery as a security concern.

ANALYSIS: The U.S. Government has become increasingly sensitive to the potential for terrorists to use certain materials as weapons of mass destruction. Suspected loss, theft or diversion of highly toxic or radioactive materials, or materials that could be used for bombs represent a security concern. Security concerns should be promptly reported to the facility security organization as required by Department of Energy (DOE) Notice 471.3, Reporting Incidents of Security Concern and BJC procedure BJC-SE-1006 Conduct of Inquiries Into Incidents of Security Concern. Both of these documents identify a number of incidents that require security concern reporting including the following:

* Confirmed or suspected loss, theft, diversion of Category I/II quantities of Special Nuclear Materials (SNM).

* Suspected loss, theft, of diversion of any non-SNM radioactive, sensitive, or dangerous materials that could pose a health threat or endanger security.

Any apparent disappearance of a storage container or of a waste container containing materials that could be used in weapons of mass destruction should be considered a suspected loss and be promptly reported to the BJC Security organization or the Plant or Lab Shift Superintendent for reporting to the Security forces. To ensure security concerns are appropriately addressed, these reports should be made even if it is uncertain whether the material is actually missing or, instead, inventory control errors occurred. The Security organization can investigate and ensure proper reporting and timely follow-up actions are taken, such as notification of law enforcement

officials. This will include appropriate evaluation for occurrence reporting as required by Department of Energy (DOE) Order 232.1A, Occurrence Reporting and Processing of Operations Information.

RECOMMENDED ACTIONS: All projects should enhance awareness of BJC and subcontractor personnel by completing the following:

1. Distribute this lesson learned to personnel or provide a briefing on the contents of this lesson to any personnel who handle or may handle and manage hazardous and radioactive materials.
2. Provide copies of DOE Notice 471.3 or the implementing procedure for this Notice such as BJC procedure BJC-SE-1006 Conduct of Inquiries Into Incidents of Security Concern to the personnel or provide a briefing to appropriate personnel on the reporting requirements.
3. Review controls for materials that could be used for weapons of mass destruction to ensure controls are adequate to protect and account for these materials.

PRIORITY DESCRIPTOR: Yellow/Caution

FUNCTIONAL CATEGORY (S) (DOE): Safeguards & Security; Environmental Restoration and Waste Management

BJC TREND CODE (S) (USER-DEFINED): SS - Safeguards & Security; WM - Waste Management

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KEYWORDS: hazardous waste materials; cyanide; inventory control; weapons

REFERENCES: OIG Inspection Report; Department of Energy (DOE) Notice 471.3, Reporting Incidents of Security Concern; BJC-SE-1006 Conduct of Inquiries Into Incidents of Security Concern; Department of Energy (DOE) Order 232.1A, Occurrence Reporting and Processing of Operations Information

HAZARDS: Hazardous Materials

WORK ACTIVITY: Material Storage; Material/Material Handling

ISMS CODE: Perform Work Within Controls; Identification of Safety Standards & Requirements

FOLLOW-UP ACTION: Information in this report is accurate to the best of our knowledge. As means of measuring the effectiveness of this report please notify Joanne E. Schutt at (865) 483-0554, e-mail at schuttj@pwtor.com of any action taken as a result of this report or of any technical inaccuracies you find. Your feedback is important and appreciated.