Message

From: Brozowski, George [brozowski.george@epa.gov]
Sent: 2/27/2019 8:23:42 PM
To: Poppell, Sam W. [Poppell.Sam@epa.gov]; Johnson, Jeremy [Johnson.Jeremy@epa.gov]
CC: Fife, Greg [fife.greg@epa.gov]
Subject: Ra-226 Source In New Orleans LA
Attachments: 2019-0118 Ra-226 Source Recover Presentation.pdf

Good afternoon gents! Greg Fife has ask me to contact you two with a radiation incident located about two miles from the Superdome. The attached pdf explains it all.

The following information came from the public works of the city of New Orleans – A Radium 226 source was discovered during the DOE radiation sweep in 2013, prior to New Orleans hosting the Super Bowl. No immediate threat to the public was found at that time. The City hired a contractor with licenses for decontamination and decommissioning to remove the radium. The work scope was coordinated with the Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality. During excavation we found that the magnitude of the material exceeded the approved scope of work and so operations were stopped and equipment decontaminated. We did not find a source of the radium, but the localized rate of contaminated soil increased from 1.5 mR/hr to 10,000 mR/hr. The contamination appears bound to the soil. A Gamma Walkover Survey was performed on Dec. 3, 2018 and the contamination site, which we originally thought would only need to be about 3 ft square is now actually two and a half blocks.

R6 will be needed assistance from Las Vegas (monitoring and sampling plan) and from NAREL (mobile lab support)

Please check out the attached pdf and then write back if you have any questions. Thanks and take care!

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