



# Types of Event Notifications

- Regulatory Notifications
  - Events with hazardous material releases that are reportable quantities as defined in Code of Federal Regulations
  - May or may not be an emergency
- Emergency Notifications
  - Events that fall within the emergency classification established by DOE Orders
  - Offsite notifications within 15 minutes of declaration
- Courtesy Notifications
  - Events that are not emergencies but have potential for significant public or media interest
  - Secondary to alarm response or protective actions

# Adequacy of Notification

- Regulatory and Emergency Notifications
  - No Problems
- Courtesy Notifications
  - Problems with threshold, timeliness and contacting the right people

# History of Courtesy Notifications

- June 16, 1995 - Tritium release from H -Area (within regulatory limits)
  - Dispatch of sampling team for confirmation purposes without prior offsite coordination
  - Notifications initiated three hours into event

## History of Courtesy Notifications (cont'd)

- June 1995 - DOE Region 3 Outreach Meeting
  - SC/GA agreed notifications made per MOUs
  - Concern over timeliness and lack of notification criteria
- August 1995 - Procedure SRSOC 304-1 modified
  - Notification secondary to emergency response
  - Notification initiation criteria included

## RBOF Event Timeline: June 25, 1997

- 4:00 a.m. - RBOF stack alarm sounds;  
No reportable levels detected; No protective actions
- 8: 14 a.m. - Facility Manager requests H Canyon Shift Manager to make area Public Address announcement for personnel to remain indoors until surveys completed (precaution)

## RBOF Event Timeline: June 25, 1997

- 8:20 a.m. - H Canyon Shift Manager contacts Emergency Duty Officer (EDO) and advises of stack alarm and remain indoors protective actions; EDO advises that H-Area personnel be sheltered (procedure default for unknown release situation)
- 8:36 a.m.- EDO issues shelter protective action for E, Z and S Areas (two-mile radius procedure default for unknown release situation)

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## RBOF Event Timeline: June 25, 1997

- 9:39 a.m. - EDO lifts sheltering advisory for E, Z and S Areas
- 10:55 a.m. - All Clear issued
- 11:25 a.m. - Offsite courtesy notifications initiated

# RBOF Event Issues and Lessons Learned

- Courtesy notifications were not timely, missed an agency and did not provide for adequate follow-up
- Alarm at 4 a.m. did not warrant courtesy notifications;
  - No protective actions implemented
- Protective actions (precautionary) were issued at 8:14 a.m.;
  - Courtesy notification should have been considered at this trigger point
- Courtesy notifications were not initiated until 11:25 a.m.
  - Contributing factors were inadequate awareness by Emergency Duty Officer of importance of courtesy notifications and the degree of public and media interest in the event

## RBOF Event Issues and Lessons Learned

- Initial courtesy notification missed the SC EPD. Error caught in review of tapes and notification was made about 3 p.m.
- Burke County warning point improperly recorded notification from SRS as coming from GEMA.
- Follow-up inquiries to SRS were not routed to proper authorities or received inadequate responses

## RBOF Event June 25, 1997

- SRSOC 304-1 in place June 25, 1997
  - Required notification if:
    - Reportable Quantity (RQ) exceeded
    - National Response Center (NRC) notified
    - SRS assets dispatched offsite (monitoring teams)
    - Onsite protective actions implemented in response to hazardous material release
    - SRS plans to issue news release
    - Significant public or media interest expected

# SRS Courtesy Notifications

- July 29, 1997

Meeting with state and local emergency management / environmental health officials from SC and GA to refine criteria.

# SRS Courtesy Notification Criteria

- Nuclear Incident Monitor (NIM) Alarm
- Tritium release >600 Curies
- Transport of a radiologically contaminated patient to an offsite medical facility
- Earthquake felt on site

# • SRS Courtesy Notification Criteria (cont.)

- Reportable Quantity (RQ) exceeded as determined by Site Environmental Protection Coordinator (SEPC)
- National Response Center (NRC) is notified
- Onsite protective actions implemented as a result of actual or potential environmental release

# • SRS Courtesy Notification Criteria (cont.)

- Offsite deployment of SRS monitoring personnel in response to onsite release
- Activation of the Dam Assessment Team
  - (PAR Pond & L-Lake only)
- Site public relations plan a press release for the environmental occurrence

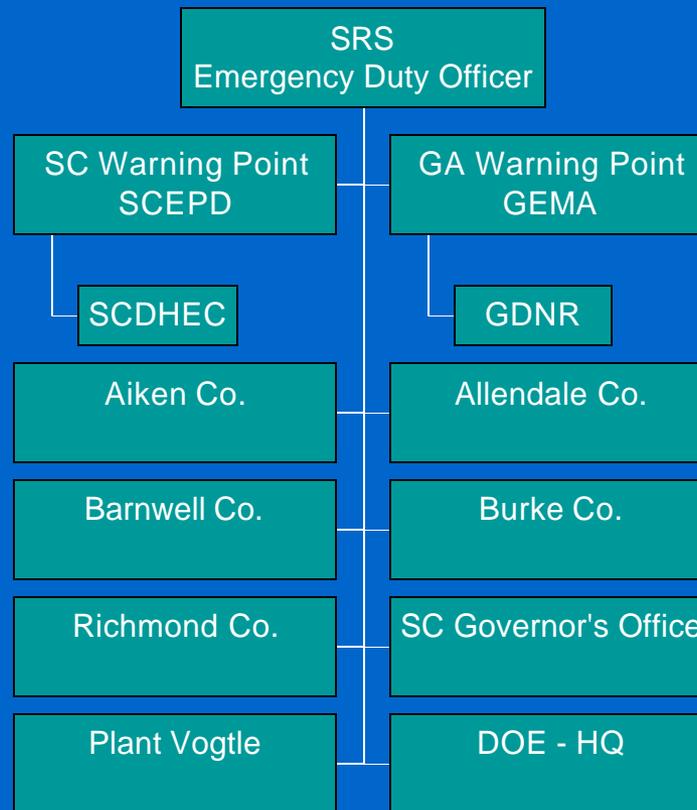
# • SRS Courtesy Notification Criteria (cont.)

- Significant interest from the media or general public
- SRS requests Federal/state/local assistance to mitigate an onsite event
- Any unscheduled event which may trigger media/public interest
- Site medical department involved in decontamination effort

# SRS Courtesy Notifications

- Initial and close-out communications by SRS Emergency Duty Officer via Emergency Notification Network & FAX to SC / GA 24-hour Warning Points (state & and county level)

# Offsite Agencies Receiving Courtesy Notification



# SRS Courtesy Notifications

- Personal follow-up & status change communications to offsite officials (e.g., County Directors, Governor's Legal Counsel, etc.)

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# SRS Courtesy Notifications

SRS recognizes the need to keep our neighbors informed and that hazards to the public or the environment are not the only reasons for offsite notifications