



ROCKY WATSON, SHERIFF
TAD LEACH, UNDERSHERIFF

KOOTENAI COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT

**KOOTENAI COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT
MEDIA RELEASE – UPDATE
NOVEMBER 5, 2008 / 3:45 P.M.**

The Region 1 Hazardous Material's Team has made the preliminary conclusions of the substance found at the Louisiana Pacific Corporation offices today. They determined that the substance was corn-starched based and was of no further hazard. The substance has been sent to a laboratory in Spokane for further testing to determine the exact composition. Once that information is available, it will be released. The matter continues to be under investigation by the Sheriff's Department.

Rocky Watson, Sheriff

By: Capt. Ben Wolfinger

**KOOTENAI COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT
MEDIA RELEASE
NOVEMBER 5, 2008**

At approximately 11:10 this morning, members of the Kootenai County Sheriff's Department and Northern Lakes Fire Department responded to the Louisiana Pacific Corporation offices at 13403 N. Government Way, north of the City of Hayden to a report of a hazardous material.

Responders learned that an employee had picked up an empty postal service tray from the corporate mail room and noticed a white powdery substance in it. When they dumped the substance into a trash can, the employee began to feel a burning sensation in their eyes and nose. Two other nearby employees also complained about a burning sensation in their eyes. All were treated by medical personnel at the scene for the non-life threatening symptoms and are being kept isolated until the substance can be identified.

The Region 1 Hazardous Material Team has been called to assist in identifying the substance so investigators can track where it may have come from. Since the postal service tray had been in the mail room for several days, it is unknown when the substance could have been introduced to the tray.

Approximately 30 employees are being kept in the building while hazardous material personnel safely identify and isolate the substance outside of the building.

More information will be released as it becomes available.

Rocky Watson, Sheriff

By: Capt. Ben Wolfinger