

February 23, 2000

PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION OF EVENT OR UNUSUAL OCCURRENCE PNO-III-00-006

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 III staff (Lisle, Illinois) on this date.

Facility	Licensee Emergency Classification
Wisconsin Electric Power Co.	Notification of Unusual Event
Point Beach 1	Alert
Two Rivers, Wisconsin	Site Area Emergency
Dockets: 50-266	General Emergency
	X Not Applicable

Subject: Point Beach Unit 1 shut down to check for a loose part in a steam generator.

On February 20 at 7:26 a.m. (CST), Unit 1 was removed from service to check for a small, loose part in one of the plant's steam generators. Acoustic monitors that identify unusual vibration in the steam generators indicated that there could be a small part weighing less than one-half pound in the inlet of the "A" steam generator. Preliminary evaluations indicate that this part did not represent an immediate safety threat to the steam generator, however, Wisconsin Electric decided to shut down Unit 1 to remove the part from the "A" steam generator and inspect the generator for any degradation. Any degradation will be evaluated and/or corrected before the unit is restarted. The Unit 1 steam generators were installed in 1984.

While Unit 1 is shut down, Wisconsin Electric also plans to conduct other maintenance work and stated that the shutdown would last 10 to 14 days. The State of Wisconsin has been notified. The information in this preliminary notification has been reviewed with licensee management. Wisconsin Electric issued a news release on the shutdown.

NRC resident inspectors observed the shutdown on February 20, 2000. This information is current as of 10:30 a.m. on February 22, 2000.

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