

October 18, 2000

PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION OF EVENT OR UNUSUAL OCCURRENCE -- PNO-IV-00-028A

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 the Region IV staff on this date.

Facility

Omaha Public Power District
Fort Calhoun Station
Omaha, Nebraska 68023
Docket:50-285 License No.:DPR-40

Licensee Emergency Classification

☐ Notification of Unusual Event
☐ Alert
☐ Site Area Emergency
☐ General Emergency
☒ Not Applicable

SUBJECT: UPDATE ON THE REACTOR SHUTDOWN TO REPLACE DEGRADED REACTOR
COOLANT PUMP SEAL PACKAGE

DESCRIPTION: Operators placed the unit in shutdown cooling at 9:00 p.m. on October 15, 2000. Information gathered during the shutdown and depressurization indicated that approximately 115 fuel pins were leaking as opposed to the 90 pin-hole leaks previously reported. Reactor coolant system dose-equivalent iodine peaked at 4.5 micro curies per gram. The chemical and volume control system has been used to restore the reactor coolant radioactivity to within the steady-state Technical Specification limit of less than or equal to 1 micro curie per gram, dose equivalent iodine. Elevated reactor coolant system radionuclides resulted in increased inventory in the waste gas storage tanks. Therefore, the tanks did not have enough capacity to support reactor drain down. The licensee delayed the drain down for approximately 1 day until the tank with the least radioactive content had decayed enough to meet administrative release limits. The release was completed at 12:35 p.m., and operators drained the reactor vessel to reduced inventory at 3:08 p.m., on October 17, 2000.

Additionally, licensee engineers evaluated the indicated parameters for Reactor Coolant Pumps C and D seals. As a result, the licensee has decided to replace the Pump C seal package during the forced outage, in addition to the packages for Pumps A and B.

The state of Nebraska has been informed.

Region IV received notification of this occurrence by the resident inspectors on October 18, 2000, Region IV has informed OEDO and NRR.

This information has been discussed with the licensee and is current as of 10:00 a.m. CDT, on October 18, 2000.

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