

August 27, 2001

PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION OF EVENT OF UNUSUAL OCCURRENCE PNO-IV 01-038

This preliminary notification constitutes EARLY notice of events of POSSIBLE safety or public interest significance. This information is as initially received without verification or evaluation, and is basically all that is known by Region IV staff in Arlington, Texas on this date.

Facility

Nebraska Public power District
Cooper Nuclear Station
Brownville, Nebraska
Dockets: 50-298

Licensee Emergency Classification

Notification of Unusual Event
Alert
Site Area Emergency
General Emergency
X Not Applicable

Subject: CONTROL ROOM LICENSED OPERATOR REMOVED FROM OPERATIONAL DUTIES

On August 27, 2001, at 9 a.m. (CDT), the licensee removed the main control room on-shift Shift Supervisor from his duties, because the individual may not have been fit for duty. The individual was escorted to the licensee's testing station to be tested for alcohol consumption. At 9:30 a.m. the first breathalyser test results were positive for alcohol in excess of the licensee's 0.04 percent blood alcohol limit. At 9:41 the second breathalyser test results were confirmed positive. The Shift Supervisor refused to have a blood test performed after the second positive breathalyser test. At 10:06 a.m. the Shift Supervisor's site access was blocked and he was driven home by another licensee employee.

The Shift Supervisor had assumed the control room shift supervisor duties at 6:30 a.m. The licensee is currently reviewing all of the work that the Shift Supervisor had performed or authorized while on duty. The licensee does not plan to issue a press release.

The state of Nebraska will be informed.

The Resident Inspector received initial notification of this occurrence at 10:30 a.m. on August 27, 2001. The licensee made a 10 CFR Part 26 notification to the NRC at 2:49 p.m.

Region IV has informed the OEDO and NRR.

This information has been discussed with the licensee and is current as of August 27, 2001, at 4:30 p.m. (CDT).

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