

PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION OF EVENT OR UNUSUAL OCCURRENCE PNO-I-01-022

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 I staff on this date.

Facility

Nuclear Technical Services/Millstone
Dominion Nuclear Connecticut, Inc.
Waterford, CT 06385

Docket No.: 50-245; 50-336; 50-423
License No.: DPR-21, DPR-65, NPF-49

Licensee Emergency Classification

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

SUBJECT: PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION OF DAMAGED MILLSTONE PROTECTED AREA FENCE

At approximately 10:04 am on August 29, 2001, five Amtrak railroad cars, which were parked on a railway spur that led into the Millstone site, accidentally rolled down the spur and penetrated a portion of the security fence surrounding the Millstone Power Station protected area. The cars were stopped by a concrete vehicle barrier positioned a few feet inside the protected area fence. Safety-related equipment was not damaged; and no unauthorized personnel entered the facility. The rail cars were unmanned and contained maintenance equipment that was being used to support an ongoing Amtrak railway maintenance activity. The cause of the accident is still under investigation. The spur was originally constructed to support plant construction activities, but the tracks are not functional inside the protected area.

The event was witnessed by licensee security personnel. Security personnel took immediate action to assure the integrity of the entire site and responded to the affected area with armed guards to compensate for the damage to the protected area fence. The cars were examined and found to carry Amtrak maintenance equipment. The site fire brigade and environmental personnel also responded to the area to contain a spill of approximately 60 gallons of diesel oil that resulted from the event. In accordance with site security procedures, local law enforcement personnel (Town of Waterford Police) were notified and responded to the site. Current information indicates the condition was accidental and not the result of a deliberate effort to adversely affect site integrity or plant safety.

The licensee issued a General Interest Non-emergency Report at 11:03 a.m. to notify local authorities of the event. The licensee is coordinating the removal of the damaged railcars with Amtrak personnel.

The NRC resident inspectors at Millstone responded to the event and are monitoring the licensee's site security and facility restoration activities. Review of the licensee's Emergency Action Levels confirmed that this event did not require the declaration of any formal emergency notification. This information has been discussed with the licensee and is current as of 3 p.m.

The licensee does not plan to issue a formal press release but has taken action to notify local media. The Region I Public Affairs Office is prepared to respond to media inquiries. The State of Connecticut has been informed.

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