

DCS No.: 05000336030307

Date: March 11, 2003

PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION OF EVENT OR UNUSUAL OCCURRENCE PNO-I-03-004

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**

Millstone Nuclear Power Station, Unit 2  
Dominion Nuclear Connecticut, Inc.  
Waterford, CT 06385

**Licensee Emergency Classification**

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

Docket No.: 05000336

License No.: DPR-65

SUBJECT: UNUSUAL EVENTS DECLARED DUE TO REACTOR TRIP WITH LEAKAGE FROM CHARGING SYSTEM (EN Nos. 39644 and 39645)

On March 7 at 2:39 p.m., Millstone Unit 2 experienced an automatic reactor trip with complications involving secondary system performance and the normal charging system. The unit tripped during reactor protection system testing and then experienced a larger than expected pressurizer level decrease. The licensee experienced problems with the normal charging flow path following the automatic start of two additional charging pumps to restore pressurizer level. At 3:16 p.m., the licensee declared an Unusual Event due to leakage from discharge relief valves for each charging pump. State and local officials were notified of the Unusual Event. The event resulted in a brief, minor radioactive release well below NRC approved operating limits. As a precaution, the Connecticut Department of Environmental Protection Radiation Control Unit took independent measurements on-site and detected no radioactivity above normal background levels. At 8:49 p.m., the licensee declared a second Unusual Event because the charging system complications delayed the plant from reaching hot shutdown (Mode 4) within the Technical Specification required time limit. The Unusual Events were terminated on March 8 at 1:46 a.m., once Unit 2 had reached hot shutdown.

The plant is currently stable in cold shutdown (Mode 5). The licensee formed an event review team to investigate the issues surrounding the event.

The resident inspectors responded to the event and observed control room activities. The NRC continues to follow shutdown activities and plans to conduct a reactive team inspection.

The contents of this PN have been communicated to the Connecticut and New York state governments.

This information has been discussed with Dominion management and is current as of 9 a.m. on March 11, 2003. The licensee issued a press release on March 7. Region 1 public affairs is responding to media inquiries.

Contact: Brian McDermott  
(610) 337-5233

Max Schneider  
(860) 447-3170

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