

June 20, 2003

**PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION OF EVENT OR UNUSUAL OCCURRENCE -- PNO-III-03-026A**

**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 III staff on this date.**

**Facility**

**Exelon Generation Company  
Quad Cities Unit 2  
Cordova, Illinois  
Docket No: 50-265  
License: DPR-30**

**Licensee Emergency Classification**

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

**SUBJECT:    CRACKS DISCOVERED IN THE UNIT 2 STEAM DRYER - UPDATE**

**DESCRIPTION:**

On June 12, 2003, the licensee discovered cracks in the upper dryer outer hood cover plate of the steam dryer of Unit 2 at the Quad Cities Nuclear Power Station while the unit was shut down to evaluate elevated moisture carryover to the main steam lines and turbine. The steam dryer is located above the steam separator which is above the reactor fuel core inside the reactor vessel; its function is to remove moisture from steam before it is piped to the turbine-generator.

Region III (Chicago) will begin a special team inspection on June 23 to review the circumstances surrounding the damage to the steam dryer, including monitoring the utility's plans for repair of the dryer. The inspectors will also evaluate the possible generic aspects of the cracking phenomenon.

The team will include inspectors from the regional office, specialists from NRC Headquarters, and the resident inspector.

Unit 1 remains in operation. No problems have been identified with the Unit 1 steam dryer or with the steam dryers in the two reactors at the Dresden Nuclear Power Station. The Quad Cities and Dresden units are similar, and all four have completed power upgrades.

The States of Illinois and Iowa have been notified of this updated information. The information in this preliminary notification has been reviewed with utility management.

This updated information is current as of 11:00 a.m. (CDT) on June 20, 2003.

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