

August 11, 2004

PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION OF EVENT OR UNUSUAL OCCURRENCE -- PNO-III-04-010

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

Palisades Nuclear Plant  
Nuclear Management Company  
Covert, MI  
Docket: 50-255  
License: DPR-20

Licensee Emergency Classification

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

SUBJECT: PALISADES SHUT DOWN TO REPAIR CONTROL  
ROD DRIVE MECHANISM LEAKAGE

DESCRIPTION:

Palisades Nuclear Power Station shut down on August 10, 2004, to replace the seals on two control rod drive mechanisms (CRDMs).

Due to an increase in primary coolant leakage from two control rod drive seals, estimated at 1 gallon per minute on August 10, the licensee decided to shut down the plant and replace the CRDM seals. Even though the measured leakage was well below the Technical Specification limit, the leakage was expected to continue to increase. The seal leakage is collected through seal leakage lines and directed into the containment sump.

The NRC resident inspectors will be monitoring the licensee's repairs.

The information in this preliminary notification has been reviewed with utility management.

The State of Michigan will be notified.

This information is current as of 8:00 a.m. on August 11, 2004.

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