

Dresden **newsflash**

DATE: Thursday, Feb. 23, 2006

FROM: Dresden Communications

Dresden HPCI Leak Repair Update

As communicated last week, work has begun to locate and repair a suspected leak in an underground high-pressure coolant injection (HPCI) pipe near the B condensate storage tank (CST). This work is being done in response to elevated levels of tritium recently found in one of Dresden's 54 onsite groundwater monitoring wells. The pipe has been isolated from the CST.

Excavation work continues in the area around the pipe in preparation for diagnostic testing and visual leak checks. Since groundwater in the area could wash away some of the soil providing support to the CST, excavation activities are being performed with great care.

Approximately 10 feet of the piping has been uncovered and evaluations suggest the leak is located on the HPCI suction line about eight feet closer to the CST than the current excavation site.

Groundwater is being pumped from the hole to help stabilize the soil, and a specialty contractor will install shoring from the excavation area to the CST. Excavators will then dig closer to the CST so Engineering can verify the leak location. Repair work will then be completed.

No abnormally high levels of tritium have been found in any of the other groundwater monitoring wells and the plume is not expected to move offsite. No tritium is present in any drinking water wells. As such, the tritium poses no adverse health risks to workers at Dresden or to the public.

Additional information will be communicated as details become available.

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