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UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
OFFICE OF INSPECTION AND ENFORCEMENT
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20555

October 1, 1979

IE Information Notice No. 79-24

OVERPRESSURIZATION OF CONTAINMENT OF A PWR PLANT AFTER A MAIN STEAM LINE BREAK

Virginia Electric and Power Co. submitted a report dated September 7, 1979 that identified a deficiency in the original analysis of containment pressurization as a result of a steam line break for North Anna Power Station, Units 3 and 4.

Stone and Webster Engineering Corporation performed a reanalysis of containment pressure following a main steam line break and determined that, if the auxiliary feedwater system continued to supply feedwater at runout conditions to the steam generator that had experienced the steam line break, containment design pressure would be exceeded in approximately 10 minutes. The long term blowdown of the water supplied under runout conditions by the auxiliary feedwater system had not been considered in the earlier analysis. The corrective action is now under review by the owner, architect engineer, and NSSS supplier.

This Information Notice is provided as an early notification of a possibly significant matter that is still under review by the NRC staff. It is expected that recipients will review the information for possible applicability to their facilities. No specific action or response is requested at this time. If NRC evaluations so indicate, further licensee actions may be requested or required.

No written response to this Information Notice is required. If you have any questions regarding this matter please contact the Director of the appropriate NRC Regional Office.

LISTING OF IE INFORMATION NOTICES
ISSUED IN LAST SIX MONTHS

Information Notice No.	Subject	Date Issued	Issued To
79-24	Overpressurization of Containment of a PWR Plant After a Main Steam Line Break	10/1/79	All power reactor facilities holding OLS and CPs
79-23	Emergency Diesel Generator Lube Oil Coolers	9/26/79	All Holders of CPs and OLS
79-22	Qualification of Control Systems	9/17/79 9/14/79	All Holders of CPs All Holders of OLS
79-21	Transportation and Commercial Burial of Radioactive Materials	9/11/79	All Licensees as Supplemental Information to IE Bulletin Nos. 79-19 & 79-20
79-20 (Rev. 1)	NRC Enforcement Policy NRC Licensed Individuals	9/7/79	All Holders of Reactor OLS and CPs and Production Licensees with Licensed Operators
79-20	NRC Enforcement Policy NRC Licensed Individuals	8/14/79	All Holders of Reactor OLS and CPs and Production Licensees with Licensed Operators
79-19 (Correction - Enclosure)	Pipe Cracks in Stagnant Borated Water Systems at PWR Plants	7/18/79	All Holders of Reactor OLS and CPs
79-19	Pipe Cracks In Stagnant Borated Water Systems At PWR Plants	7/17/79	All Holders of Reactor OLS and CPs
79-18	Skylab Reentry	7/6/79	All Holders of Reactor OLS

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Information Notice No.	Subject	Date Issued	Issued To
79-17	Source Holder Assembly Damage Damage From Misfit Between Assembly and Reactor Upper Grid Plate	6/20/79	All Holders of Reactor OLs and CPs
79-16	Nuclear Incident at Three Mile Island	6/22/79	All Research Reactors and Test Reactors with OLs
79-15	Deficient Procedures	6/7/79	All Holders of Reactor OLs and CPs
79-14	NRC Position of Electrical Cable Support Systems	6/11/79	All Power Reactor Facilities with a CP
79-13	Indication of Low Water Level in the Oyster Creek Reactor	5/29/79	All Holders of Reactor OLs and CPs
79-12	Attempted Damage to New Fuel Assemblies	5/10/79	All Fuel Facilities Research Reactors, and Power Reactors with an OL or CP
79-11	Lower Reactor Vessel Head Insulation Support Problem	5/7/79	All holders of Reactor OLs and CPs