



**HITACHI**

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Director, Division of Reactor Licensing  
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Two White Flint North  
11545 Rockville Pike  
Rockville, Maryland 20852-2738  
Att: John Buckley

November 7<sup>th</sup>, 2008

Subject: ESADA-Vallecitos Experimental Superheat Reactor (EVESR) Incident Report  
Reference: License DR-10, Docket 50-183

The following report is submitted pursuant to the requirements of License Condition E.1. of GE Hitachi Nuclear Energy Americas LLC, Facility License DR-10 for EVESR. Section E. Reports, Paragraph 1. requires: "A report of any indication of or occurrence of a possible unsafe condition relating to the facility or public. For each occurrence, GE-Hitachi shall promptly notify by telephone or telegraph the Director of the appropriate AEC Regional Compliance Office listed in Appendix D of 10CFR20. And shall submit within 10 days a report in writing to the Director, Division of Reactor Licensing, with a copy to the Regional Compliance Office."

On 30 October 2008, a GEH contractor was engaged in equipment removal in the EVESR containment, specifically the size reduction cutting of Emergency Cooling System components on the 590' Platform. A fire (smoldering) resulted in the local HEPA air filtration unit used at the site of cutting. It was extinguished by removal of electrical power to the fan, and confirmed out with water discharge onto the filter media. On-site emergency personnel followed up to confirm of safe conditions. Area and personnel air samples taken in the area indicate no abnormal radiological results; therefore there was no radiological release to the workers in the area or the public.

NRC, Region IV personnel were notified by telephone message on the same day. Direct contact was made on October 31.

Vallecitos Nuclear Center has initiated a formal incident investigation in accordance with the site procedures to determine the root cause and implement appropriate corrective actions. The contractor's work on this project has been stopped pending the completion of the investigation. If you need additional information, please contact me.

Sincerely,

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CC: USNRC Region IV

NMSSD/  
FSME