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ACCESSION NBR: 8103310717 DOC. DATE: 81/03/23 NOTARIZED: NO DOCKET #
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 RECIP. NAME RECIPIENT AFFILIATION

SUBJECT: PNO-III-81-034: on 810321, recirculation loop discharge valve
 B failed to close. Valve inoperability from this circuitry to
 be tested during outage. Contactor at breaker manually
 closed, closing valve. Press release not planned.

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PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION

Date: March 23, 1981

PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION OF EVENT OR UNUSUAL OCCURRENCE--PNO-III-81-34

This preliminary notification constitutes EARLY notice of events of POSSIBLE safety or public interest significance. The information presented is as initially received without verification or evaluation and is basically all that is known by IE staff as of this date.

Facility: Iowa Electric Light & Power
Duane Arnold Energy Center (Docket No. 50-331)
Palo, Iowa

Subject: DIFFICULTY IN CLOSING RECIRCULATION LOOP DISCHARGE VALVE

At approximately 8:14 p.m. on March 21, 1981, while the reactor was at 250°F on the way to a planned cold shutdown for a refueling outage, an attempt to close the "B" Recirculation Loop Discharge Valve from the control room was unsuccessful. Failure of the valve to close could affect operability of the LOCA loop selection logic for low pressure injection. Valve operability from this circuitry will be tested during the outage. An operator manually pushed closed the contactor at the breaker which caused the valve to close. By 9:50 p.m. on March 21, the plant was in the cold shutdown condition.

The licensee notified the State of Iowa on March 21, 1981.

This Preliminary Notification is issued for information only. The Resident Inspectors are following up on this matter.

Neither the licensee nor Region III is planning a press release.

Region III received initial notification of this occurrence by telephone from the NRC-HQ Duty Officer at 10:10 p.m. on March 23, 1981. This information is current as of 9:00 a.m. on March 21, 1981.

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PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION

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