



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

February 24, 1995

Mr. C. S. Hinnant, Vice President
Carolina Power & Light Company
H. B. Robinson Steam Electric Plant,
Unit No. 2
3581 West Entrance Road
Hartsville, South Carolina 29550

SUBJECT: INTERNATIONAL NUCLEAR EVENT SCALE EVENT REPORTING FORM -
H. B. ROBINSON STEAM ELECTRIC PLANT, UNIT NO. 2

Dear Mr. Hinnant:

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) is forwarding the International Nuclear Event Scale (INES) Event Reporting Form that was disseminated regarding your recent declaration of an alert on February 13, 1995. The event involved a release of carbon dioxide to a plant vital area during the performance of a surveillance test on a fire suppression system.

The NRC participates in the INES in a limited way, as was communicated to you through Generic Letter 92-09, issued on December 31, 1992. As stated in the Generic Letter, the INES rating is not intended to affect emergency classifications, event reporting to the NRC, or communications with the public. Because usage of the INES could lead to confusion with the existing four-level emergency response scale used in the United States, the NRC delays the INES rating for at least one week after the event is terminated. The NRC evaluates every event classified as an alert or higher on the U.S. emergency response scale for its INES applicability. An INES Event Rating Form is then prepared utilizing available documentation pertaining to the event. Not every alert (or higher) will necessarily receive an INES classification, as some may be rated "out of scale." In this case, the event was classified as "out of scale." A copy of the rating form is enclosed.

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The NRC does not request a review or concurrence with the INES classification nor is any response requested. If you have any questions, please contact me at (301) 415-2020.

Sincerely,
/s/

Brenda Mozafari, Project Manager
Project Directorate II-1
Division of Reactor Projects - I/II
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket No. 50-261

Enclosure: As stated

cc w/enclosure: See next page

Distribution (w/enclosure)

Docket File	OPA
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WRussell/FMiraglia	EMerschhoff, RII
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GHill, (4)	DWeaver
ACRS (4)	

Document Name: G:\ROBINSON\ROB-INES.LTR

OFFICE	LA:PDII-1	PM:PDII-1	D:PDII-1		
NAME	PAnderson	Bmozafari	WBateman		
DATE	02/24/95	02/24/95	02/24/95		
COPY	Yes/No	Yes/No	Yes/No		

OFFICIAL RECORD COPY

Mr. C. S. Hinnant
Carolina Power & Light Company

H. B. Robinson Steam Electric
Plant, Unit No. 2

cc:

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3581 West Entrance Road
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INTERNATIONAL NUCLEAR EVENT SCALE (INES) EVENT RATING FORM

To be sent to: IAEA, Wagramerstrasse 5, P.O. Box 100, A-1400, Vienna, Austria
TELEX: 1-12645, Cable: INATOM Vienna, Facsimile: 43-1-2309723, Telephone: 43-1-2360-2685

EVENT TITLE	CARBON DIOXIDE RELEASE TO A PLANT VITAL AREA						EVENT DATE	95.02.13					
RATING	RATING DATE	OUT OF SCALE	BELOW SCALE	ON SCALE							SAFETY ATTRIBUTE	DEGRADATION OF DEFENSE IN-DEPTH	
PROVISIONAL <input type="checkbox"/>	95.02.14	X	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7		ON-SITE IMPACT	
FINAL <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>				OFF-SITE IMPACT									
COUNTRY	USA			FACILITY NAME	ROBINSON 2						FACILITY TYPE	683 Mw(e) PWR	

ASPECTS OF SIGNIFICANCE TO THE PUBLIC:	YES	NO
ACCIDENT <input type="checkbox"/>		
INCIDENT <input type="checkbox"/>		
DEVIATION <input type="checkbox"/>		
RADIOACTIVE RELEASES OFF-SITE	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
RADIOACTIVE RELEASES ON-SITE	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
WORKERS INJURED BY RADIATION	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
WORKERS INJURED PHYSICALLY	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
PLANT SAFETY IS UNDER CONTROL	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
THE EVENT REPORTED IS A DISCOVERY OF A DEFICIENCY BY ROUTINE SURVEILLANCE	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
A PRESS RELEASE WAS MADE (IF YES, PLEASE ATTACH IT)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

A SHORT DESCRIPTION OF THE EVENT:

The plant was operating at 100% power when a release of carbon dioxide (CO₂) to a plant vital area occurred. The area was immediately evacuated, and there were no personnel injuries nor any effect on plant safety systems. The CO₂ bottles are located in an auxiliary building room and are used for a fire suppression system in an adjacent cable spreading room. The release occurred due to improper thread engagement during the performance of a surveillance test procedure on the back-up bank of bottles. The test procedure requires the bottles to be dis-connected, weighed, and then re-connected. The primary bank of CO₂ bottles remained available for fire protection. The emergency event was terminated when all areas of the auxiliary building were verified to have oxygen concentrations of greater than 20%. The plant remained at power throughout the event.

CONTACT PERSON FOR FURTHER INFORMATION	NAME	Ken E. Brockman	
	ADDRESS	USNRC, Washington, DC 20555	
	PHONE	(301) 415-7482	
	FAX	(301) 816-5151	

*PLEASE ATTACH ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ON JUSTIFICATION OF THE EVENT RATING AND DIFFICULTIES ENCOUNTERED, IF NEEDED