

## REGULATORY INFORMATION DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM (RIDS)

SUBJECT: PNO-11-89-004 :on 890107,flammable mixture pf hydrogen introduced to air sys.Caused under investigation.

NOTES:

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NOTE TO ALL "RIDS" RECIPIENTS:

PLEASE HELP US TO REDUCE WASTE! CONTACT THE DOCUMENT CONTROL DESK,  
ROOM P1-37 (EXT. 20079) TO ELIMINATE YOUR NAME FROM DISTRIBUTION  
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TOTAL NUMBER OF COPIES REQUIRED: LTTR ~~23~~ ENCL 23

January 9, 1989

PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION OF EVENT OR UNUSUAL OCCURRENCE PNO-II-89-04

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

FACILITY: Carolina Power & Light Company  
H. B. Robinson  
Docket No. 50-261  
Hartsville, South Carolina

Licensee Emergency Classification:  
X Notification of Unusual Event  
       Alert  
       Site Area Emergency  
       General Emergency  
       Not Applicable

SUBJECT: FLAMMABLE MIXTURE OF HYDROGEN IN H. B. ROBINSON'S STATION AIR SYSTEM

Carolina Power and Light Company declared an unusual event at the H. B. Robinson site on January 7, 1989, at 2:36 a.m. (EST), due to an in-plant flammable gas release endangering plant personnel. The instrument and station air systems had been incorrectly connected to the plant's hydrogen supply system in support of an air test of the main electrical generator. As a result, instead of supplying air to the main generator, hydrogen was inadvertently introduced to the plant's air systems. Samples from the air systems in the turbine building, auxiliary building, and containment indicated a hydrogen concentration as high as 6% (4% hydrogen is considered a flammable mixture).

The unusual event was terminated at 8:07 a.m. (EST), on January 7, 1989, after the plant air systems were vented and samples confirmed the hydrogen concentration problem was corrected. The licensee is still investigating the circumstances surrounding the event, and NRC Inspectors continue to follow the situation. The plant remains in a refueling outage.

The State of South Carolina has been notified.

The NRC received initial notification of this event by telephone from the licensee at 3:31 a.m. (EST), on January 7, 1989.

This information is current as of 12:00 p.m. (EST) on January 9, 1989.

CONTACT: R. E. Carroll, Jr. - 242-5543

DISTRIBUTION:

One White	M'land Nat'l	Regions	MAIL TO:	DCS (Original IE 34)
Flint North	Bank Bldg	Region I 6:54		DOT (Transportation Only)
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Comm. Rogers		Region V 6:58		RII
Comm. Curtiss				NRC OC
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OCA	RES			
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5520: 01/09/89 @ 2:00 p.m. TO REGIONS AND HQ				
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	PNO-11-89-004 PNU			

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