

PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION

QUB

July 31, 1979

PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION OF EVENT OR UNUSUAL OCCURRENCE--PNO-79-296

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 on this date.

Facility: Commonwealth Edison Company, Dresden Unit 2
(DN 50-237) Morris, Illinois

Subject: PLANT SHUTDOWN TO CORRECT EXCESSIVE UNIDENTIFIED DRYWELL LEAKAGE

The unit was removed from service on July 31, 1979, to correct excessive unidentified drywell leakage. A cooldown is in progress, and a hydrostatic test will be conducted to identify the location of the leak which is suspected of being in the A Recirculation Pump Seal Leak Detection line. The unit had been operating at reduced loads since July 27, 1979, when the leakage rate reached a maximum of 4.6 gpm (TS Limit less than or equal to 5.0 gpm), and drywell inspections had been made on July 27 and 28, 1979, to identify and correct, if possible, the leakage problem. At the time of shutdown the unit was operating at about 60% power, the leakage rate was about 3.5 gpm and no operating problems were being encountered. The duration of this shutdown is estimated to be 2 - 3 days.

The resident inspector closely monitored the licensee's actions regarding this matter.

The licensee's plans regarding a press release are unknown. RIII will consider issuing a press release.

The State of Illinois is being notified.

RIII was notified of this matter by the resident inspector at 6:30 p.m. on July 30, 1979.

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