

PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION

July 5, 1979

PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION OF EVENT OR UNUSUAL OCCURRENCE--PNO-79-215

This preliminary notification constitutes EARLY notice of an event 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: Iowa Electric Light and Power Company
Duane Arnold Energy Center (DN 50-331)
Palo, IA

Subject: IE BULLETIN NO. 79-02, REVISION 1, "PIPE SUPPORT BASE PLATE DESIGNS USING CONCRETE EXPANSION ANCHOR BOLTS" - PRELIMINARY TEST RESULTS

The licensee informed RIII on July 3, 1979, of the results and conclusions of the testing program required by IE Bulletin No. 79-02, Revision 1. The results of testing 21 anchors indicated that 40% of the anchors would not meet design seismic requirements. As a result, the testing has been suspended and a program for replacement of 100% of the anchor bolts has been initiated.

The licensee's initial evaluation, performed by both the Onsite and Safety Review Committees, concluded that continued operation of the facility, with potentially degraded safety systems, did not significantly impact on the health and safety of the public. This position was based on information that all piping supports inside the primary containment are adequate due to a different design and the probability of the DBE occurring during the 120 day repair program was small.

Based on this information, a conference call was setup between Region III, IE Headquarters, NRR and the licensee to discuss this matter. The licensee was informed that his evaluation, which was based on a probability analysis, was unacceptable. Further, it was concluded that Iowa Electric's sample size (21 anchors out of 530) was not sufficient and that the licensee should reinitiate his original test program to achieve better statistics in order to determine the potential degradation of the support systems involved. It was further agreed that a meeting would be held on Friday, July 6, 1979, in Bethesda, Maryland, at which time the licensee would present his findings and proposed solution to correct the problem to IE and NRR.

A Region III Piping Specialist Inspector is onsite to review the licensee's testing program, the testing results and the anchor bolt replacement program.

No press release is planned by the licensee nor the NRC at this time.

The State of Iowa is being notified.

The Region III office was notified of this problem at 2:30 p.m. on July 3, 1979, by Iowa Electric Power Company.

CONTINUED

1447 351
7910150785 J

Contact: G. Klingler IE, x28019 FNolan IE, x28019 S. Bryan IE x28019

Distribution: Transmitted H St _____

Chairman Hendrie	Commissioner Bradford	S. J. Chilk, SECY
Commissioner Kennedy	Commissioner Ahearne	C. C. Kammerer, CA
Commissioner Gilinsky	ACRS	(For Distribution)

Transmitted: MNBB _____

L. V. Gossick, EDO	P. Bldg <u>1:07</u>	V. Stel..., IE
H. L. Ornstein, EDO	H. R. Denton, NRR	Region _____
J. J. Fouchard, PA	R. C. DeYoung, NRR	
N. M. Haller, MPA	R. J. Mattson, NRR	
R. G. Ryan, OSP	D. Vassallo, NRR	(MAIL)
H. K. Shapar, ELD	D. Eisenhut, NRR	J. J. Cummings, OIA
	SS Bldg _____	R. Minogue, SD
	W. J. Dircks, NMSS	
	S. Levine, RES	

PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION

1447 352