

PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION

December 21, 1979

PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION OF EVENT OR UNUSUAL OCCURRENCE PNO-II-79-45

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 as of this date

FACILITY: Tennessee Valley Authority
Browns Ferry 1, 2 and 3
Docket No. 50-259, 50-260, 50-296
Decatur, Alabama

SUBJECT: CONFIRMATION OF ACTION LETTER ON VERIFICATION OF PRIMARY CONTAINMENT EQUIPMENT ACCESS HATCH INTEGRITY

An inspection by the licensee of the two drywell equipment access hatches on Unit 2, performed during a maintenance outage, revealed that six of twelve closing dogs on one hatch, and eight of twelve on the other hatch, were improperly aligned. In addition, one closing bolt was not torqued. This inspection was made following a failure to establish primary containment integrity on Unit 3 (see PNO-II-79-40 for background information).

On December 21, Region II (Atlanta) issued a letter to TVA confirming certain actions to be taken by the licensee. These actions include an inspection of the equipment access hatches, verification of proper closure bolt torque, and performance of a local leak rate test of the hatch. If any closure dog is found misaligned, the unit will be shutdown and the dogs properly aligned. These actions will be completed by 1700 hours EST on December 22 for Unit 1, and 1700 hours EST on December 23 for Unit 3.

A news release is not planned by the licensee nor the NRC. The State of Alabama has been notified.

Region II discussed these actions with the licensee by telephone on December 20.

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