

PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION

8 005200 003

Date: May 1, 1980

PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION OF EVENT OR UNUSUAL OCCURRENCE--PNO-III-80-81

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 as of this date.

Facility: Toledo Edison Company
Davis-Besse 1 (Docket No. 50-346)
Oak Harbor, OH

Subject: OVEREXPOSURE

At approximately midnight on 4/30/80 while entering the area under the reactor vessel to survey for possible water leaks, a Senior Chem and Rad Tester and Assistant Shift Supervisor received estimated doses of 3 to 8 rems for the Senior Chem and Rad Tester and 1 to 2 rems for the Assistant Shift Supervisor (permissible quarterly dose is 3 rems). The overexposure is attributed by the licensee to a combination of two factors: (1) The radiation survey meter being used by the Senior Chem and Rad Tester was either faulty or was misread, and 2) the survey map being used by the Senior Chem and Rad Tester incorrectly showed the location of a temporary barrier door. The survey map showed the locked door in a maze type hallway 90° from its actual location. The actual location was in the hallway leading directly to the area under the reactor vessel. This misconception on the part of the Senior Chem and Rad Tester lead him to believe a low (apparently erroneous) reading on his survey meter. Upon opening the locked door the two men realized where they were and immediately retreated.

The estimated doses are based upon a re-enactment of the event using another radiation survey meter. The TLD dosimeters are being flown to the vendor for analysis. The licensee is imposing additional administrative controls to control access to the areas and is providing additional training to each operating shift. Recalibration of survey meter used showed it to be in proper calibration.

The State of Ohio is being notified.

The licensee plans to make a press release on the event subsequent to receipt of the readings of the TLD's later today. Region III (Chicago) is not planning to make a press release at this time, but will respond to media or public inquiries.

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5/1/80

The licensee reported the event under 10 CFR 20 to the resident inspector, at approximately 1:00 a.m. (EDT) on 5/1/80.

RIII is dispatching a radiation specialist to the site on 5/1/80 to investigate the event.

This information is current as of 10:00 a.m. (CDT) on 5/1/80.

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