

PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION OF EVENT OR UNUSUAL OCCURRENCE--PNO-III-79-52

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  
Zion Units 1 and 2  
Docket Nos. 50-295 and 50-304  
Zion, Illinois

Subject: GOUGED AREAS OBSERVED ON BERGEN-PATERSON STEAM GENERATOR SNUBBERS

During a routine surveillance the gland seals on 3 Bergen-Paterson (B-P) hydraulic snubbers (Series 64730) installed on the Unit 2 steam generators were observed to be leaking excessively. There are 4 snubbers of this type installed on each of the TWO steam generators. The snubbers have been in service approximately 7 years.

A visual examination of the snubbers disclosed significant gouges on the surface of the piston rods where they pass through the housings at the gland seals. The housings also shows indications of being gouged.

The significance of this problem is being evaluated by the licensee. RIII is following the matter.

Neither the licensee or RIII plan to make a press release.

The State of Illinois will be notified when the problem is clearly defined and the licensee's plans are known. Both Units 1 and 2 are in cold shutdown.

Region III was made aware of this matter at 1:45 p.m. on November 29, 1979, by the RIII snubber specialist inspector who is onsite.

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