September 5, 1980

PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION OF EVENT OR UNUSUAL OCCURRENCE -- PNO-IV-80-30

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: Arkansas Power and Light Company

Arkansas Nuclear One, Unit 1

(DN 50-313)

SUBJECT: STEAM GENERATOR TUBE LEAK

On September 5, 1980, at approximately 4:10 A.M., Unit I received indications of a tube leak in the "A" steam generator. The unit was operating at 100% of full power when the N-16 detector indicated a primary system to secondary system leak. The steam generator tube leak was confirmed by detection of an increase in radioactivity on the off gas monitor and an increase from 500 counts per minute to 1400 cpm on the main stack monitor.

The licensee commenced shutdown of Unit 1 when the steam generator tube leak was verified.

The licensee has not observed an increase in the primary system to secondary system leak rate since reactor shutdown was started. The leak rate has remained small and the licensee has not estimated the leak rate in gallons per minute (gpm).

The licensee notified the Senior Resident Inspector at 4:20 A.M., CDT, 9/5/80.

Region IV Duty Officer was notified by the HQ Duty Officer at approximately 5:15 A.M., CDT, 9/5/80.

The licensee estimates that Unit i will be shutdown approximately two weeks.

The licensee is considering issuance of a press release. Region IV does not plan to issue a press release.

Arkansas Nuclear One, Unit 1, is a Babcock and Wilcox (B&W) pressurized water reactor.

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