

Date: January 21, 1981

PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION OF EVENT OR UNUSUAL OCCURRENCE--PNO-I-81-09

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: Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute  
Critical Facility  
Schenectady, New York  
Docket Number 50225

Subject: WATER LINE BREAK; WATER PUMPED TO PARKING LOT

On January 20, 1981, licensee informed Region I by telephone that extreme cold resulted in a line break and partial drainage of the reactor water storage tank to the Reactor Room sump. Sample analysis indicated no activity. A city water line in the Reactor Room then burst, flooding the sump, the floor, and resulted in the water running out under the Reactor Room door. During cleanup the noncontaminated water was pumped to the facility parking lot where it froze. The reactor has been shutdown since August 1980; preparations were underway to resume operation in February 1981.

A health physics inspector from Region I will visit the site on about January 21, 1981.

This PN is for information only.

The State of New York has been informed. A press release is not planned by NRC.

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