

Date: February 26, 1981

## PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION OF EVENT OR UNUSUAL OCCURRENCE--PNO-I-81-28

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: Boston Edison Company  
Pilgrim (Docket No. 50-293)  
Plymouth, Massachusetts 02360

Subject: POTENTIAL FOR LOCA AND LOSS OF PRIMARY CONTAINMENT DURING AN  
ANTICIPATED TRANSIENT WITHOUT SCRAM (ATWS)

During an engineering evaluation of the scram discharge air system in response to recent NRC concerns in this area, the licensee identified on February 25, 1981 that the physical location of the Anticipated Transient Without Scram (ATWS) Alternate Rod Insertion (ARI) solenoids, recently installed in the scram discharge air header, could possibly allow insertion of control rods (CR) without the scram discharge volume vent and drain valves closing. A LOCA condition could then result by the continuous flow of CR water through the vent and drain valves to the reactor building equipment sump, which is located outside primary containment.

The licensee has reviewed existing Emergency Procedures to ensure that immediate operator actions during an ATWS event would result in closing the scram discharge vent and drain valves. This has been confirmed.

The plant is currently operating at about 80 percent power and plans to modify the system configuration during a previously planned outage beginning on February 28, 1981. The outage is expected to keep the plant shut down for about 8 days.

This Preliminary Notification is issued because of interest and concern with scram systems and ATWS related events.

A news release has not been made by the licensee. The NRC plans no press release at this time. The Commonwealth of Massachusetts has been notified.

Region I received notification of this potential event by telephone from the licensee at 4:20 pm, February 25, 1981.

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February 26, 1981

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(6 MIN/PAGE)  
J. J. Cummings, OIA

IE:TAS 11:45  
NRC/TMI Program  
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Region II 12:10  
Region III 12:12  
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RI Resident Sites  
12:11 /         
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(MAIL)  
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