

Date: April 21, 1981

PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION OF EVENT OR UNUSUAL OCCURRENCE--PNO-I-81-52

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: Jersey Central Power and Light Company
Oyster Creek Nuclear Generating Station (DN 50-219)
Toms River, New Jersey

Subject: CONDENSATE STORAGE TANK LIQUID SPILL

At approximately 1:00 a.m. on April 21, 1981 the licensee discovered block packing on a 6 inch manual bypass valve around the condensate makeup/letdown valve in the Condensate Transfer System. Subsequent licensee review indicated approximately 1 foot (12,000 gallons) of water (gross gamma activity $4 \text{ E-}5 \text{ uCi/ml}$) was lost from the Condensate Storage Tank (CST). Water spilled contained primarily Ba-140, La-140 and Ce-141. The water ran from the valve into an enclosed pump house. Floor drains in the pump house directed most of the water to the radioactive waste system, however about 2,000 gallons leaked from the pump house to the outside. Some of this was impounded and pumped into drums and sumps in the plant. Soil samples collected in the area indicated gross gamma activity of $6 \text{ E-}4 \text{ uCi/gram}$. Although some water flowed across the ground out of the Controlled Area, no offsite releases occurred. The water remained within the licensee's Protected Area.

The licensee has isolated the leak and is reviewing the event to determine the cause of the failure and the amount of water released from the pump house. The contaminated soil areas have been covered with plastic. Additional soil samples are to be collected. No personnel contamination or exposure resulted from this event.

Media interest is possible because of the sensitivity to nuclear power plant issues at this site. The licensee plans to issue a press release and is responding to media inquiries. No press release is planned by the NRC at this time. The State of New Jersey has been informed. The resident inspector is onsite and is following the event.

The licensee made an ENS call at 1:40 a.m. on April 21, 1981 and Region I was notified at 6:50 a.m., April 21, 1981, by the Headquarters Duty Officer.

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DISTRIBUTION: (Facsimile Transmission Times Noted)

H ST BLDG 11:40
 Chairman Hendrie
 Commissioner Gilinsky
 Commissioner Bradford
 Commissioner Ahearne
 ACRS
 S. J. Chilk, SECY
 C. C. Kammerer, CA

MARYLAND NATIONAL
 BANK BUILDING 12:30
 W. J. Dircks, EDO
 C. Michelson, AEOD
 J. J. Fouchard, PA
 N. M. Haller, MPA
 G. W. Kerr, OSP
 H. K. Shapar, ELD

IE:TAS 11:50
 NRC/TMI Program
 Office 1:55
 Region II 2:45
 Region III 3:00
 Region IV 2:15
 Region V 2:30

PHILLIPS BLDG 12:32
 H. R. Denton, NRR
 R. H. Vollmer, NRR
 T. E. Murley, NRR
 D. F. Ross, NRR
 D. Eisenhut, NRR
 S. H. Hanauer, NRR

WILLSTE BLDG 12:40
 J. G. Davis, NMSS
 R. B. Minogue, RES

RI Resident Sites
System Area 1 1:00

LANDOW BLDG (Fax by HQ)
 (6 MIN/PAGE)
 J. J. Cummings, ~~QIA~~

(MAIL)
 R. G. Smith, SD
 IE:TAS
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