

PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION

May 8, 1981



PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION OF EVENT OR UNUSUAL OCCURRENCE PNO-II-81-34

This preliminary notification constitutes EARLY notice of an event 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 as of this date.

FACILITY: Alabama Power Company
Farley Unit 2
Docket No. 50-364
Dothan, Alabama

SUBJECT: INITIAL CRITICALITY

Farley Unit 2 achieved initial criticality at 11:21 a.m. on May 8, 1981. Actual parameters were in close agreement with predicted conditions. Critical boron concentration was within 18 parts per million of the predicted critical value. The NRC inspector was in the control room and witnessed the approach to criticality.

The licensee is commencing low power physics testing. The tests will be monitored by the NRC inspector.

Media interest is expected. The licensee issued a news release. The NRC does not plan a news release. The State of Alabama has been notified.

Region II (Atlanta) received notification of this occurrence by telephone from the NRC inspector at 1:30 p.m. on May 8, 1981.

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