



Date: June 8, 1981

PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION OF SAFEGUARDS EVENT--PNS-I-81-11

This preliminary notification constitutes EARLY notice of events of POSSIBLE safety security 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: Duquesne Light Company
Beaver Valley Power Station, Unit 1
Shippingport, Pennsylvania (DN 50-334)

Subject: MANUAL SUCTION VALVE FOR HIGH HEAD SAFETY INJECTION (HHSI) PUMP
FOUND MISPOSITIONED

A manual valve, in the High Head Safety Injection (HHSI) Pumps' common suction line, was found shut during a routine operator tour at about 1:00 a.m., on June 6, 1981. The valve was immediately reopened. This valve, which is checked by operators each shift, had been verified open at about 4:30 p.m., June 5. With the valve shut, emergency core cooling water from the refueling water storage tank would not have been available to the three HHSI pumps for high pressure injection of water into the core under emergency conditions. The chain and padlock which secured this valve in the open position have not been found.

Additionally, about 9:00 a.m., June 5, 1981, similar locks and chains were found removed from three auxiliary feedwater pumps' manual suction isolation valves but the valves were all in their normally open position. These locks and chains also have not been found. Licensee investigation of this event was inconclusive and has now been combined with the investigation of the June 6 occurrence.

The licensee has isolated the plant vital areas and implemented additional security precautions. The licensee has periodically reverified correct valve alignments for engineered safety feature (ESF) systems since June 6 and safety related equipment is being checked every 2-4 hours. The two man rule is in effect.

The Senior Resident Inspector has independently verified proper positioning of ESF valves and breakers.

The FBI Office, Pittsburgh, PA initiated an investigation about 3:30 p.m., June 6, following licensee notification at about 1:30 p.m., June 6. The SRI followed the licensee investigation through the weekend. A Region I Investigator arrived on site on June 7, 1981.

There has been considerable media interest. The licensee issued a press release on June 6. NRC Region I does not plan a press release at this time but is responding to media inquiries. The IAT has been informed. The Commonwealth of Pennsylvania has been notified.

This PN is issued for information only.

The HQ:DO was notified by the licensee via ENS at 1:40 a.m., on June 6, 1981. Region I received notification of this event from the SRI at about 8:00 a.m., June 6, 1981. This information is current as of 9:00 a.m., June 8, 1981.

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PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION

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