Date: June 23, 1981

PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION OF EVENT OR UNUSUAL OCCURRENCE--PNO-I-81-50

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 isoknown, by IE staff on this date.

Facility:

Northeast Nuclear Energy Company

Millstone Nuclear Station Unit 1 (D/N 50-245)

Waterford, CT.

Subject:

RELEASE OF RADIOACTIVE EFFLUENT TO UNRESTRICTED AREA

The licensee reported that an unplanned release of radioactive water through the storm drain system occurred during the period June 19-June 22, 1981. The licensee estimated a total release of 80 gallons of contaminated water, to the quarry on site, which contained iodine-133 and iodine-131 in the concentrations 4.2x10-6 microcuries per milliliter and 0.5x10-6 microcuries per milliliter respectively. The maximum permissible concentrations for these isotopes are 1x10-6 microcuries per milliliter for iodine-133 and 3x10-7 microcuries per milliliter for iodine-131. The quarry dilutes the effluent using plant recirculation water and then flows to Long Island Sound. No levels of radioactive material in excess of the normal background were detected in the outfall. The contaminated water originated in a water separator in the lubricating oil conditioner for the main steam turbine.

The licensee has sealed the storm drain system, flushed and cleaned it sending the flushing water to the plant's radioactive waste handling system. The effluent pathway from the lubricating oil conditioner water separator has been modified so that all wastes will be processed by the plant rad waste system.

This Preliminary Notification is for information only. The matter is being reviewed by the Resident Inspector. The State of Connecticut has been notified. The licensee issued a press release at 3:00 pm on June 22, 1981. NRC has responded to media inquiries.

NRC Region I received notification from the Resident Inspector at 2:45 pm on June 22. 1981 with complete details by telephone from the Resident Inspector at 9:20 am on June 23, 1981. The HQ Duty Officer was notified via ENS at 1:50 pm on June 22.

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