

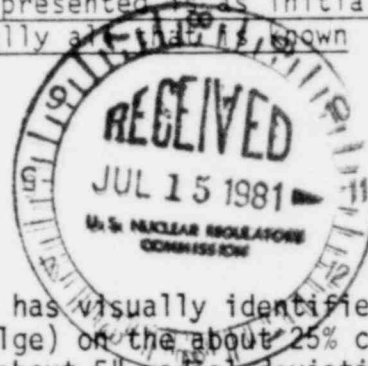
Date: July 10, 1981

## PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION OF EVENT OR UNUSUAL OCCURRENCE--PNO-I-81-77

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 as shown by IE staff on this date.

Facility: Philadelphia Electric Company  
Limerick Generating Station, Unit 2  
Limerick, Pennsylvania (DN: 50-353)

Subject: COOLING TOWER PROBLEMS



The cooling tower designer (Marley Cooling Tower Company) has visually identified a possible out-of-specification, out-of-round condition (bulge) on the about 25% complete Unit 2 cooling tower, with preliminary indications of an about 5" radial deviation from round (1" is the specified limit). Construction contractor (Ragnar-Benson, Inc.) records submitted to the licensee reportedly do not show such an out-of-round condition. The cooling tower is not safety-related, and the construction contractor involved has not been assigned any safety-related work at Limerick. Resurvey of tower roundness is in progress. Cooling tower work has been halted, and the construction contractor has implemented a reduction-in-force pending data review and evaluation.

Media interest has occurred. The Commonwealth of Pennsylvania has been informed. No licensee or NRC press release is planned. The licensee has responded to media inquiries. NRC Region I has responded to media inquiries.

NRC Region I received notification of this condition by checking upon a telephone inquiry received from the "Pottstown Mercury" (newspaper) about 6:10 p.m., July 9, 1981.

Contact: E.C. McCABE  
488-1231

R.R. KEIMIG  
488-1224

DISTRIBUTION: (Facsimile Transmission Times Noted)

H ST BLDG 11:08  
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Commissioner Ahearne  
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H. K. Shapar, ELD

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NRC/TMI Program Office 1220  
Region II 11:35  
Region III 11:40  
Region IV 11:45  
Region V 11:47  
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WILLSTE BLDG 11:30  
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R. B. Minogue, RES

RI Resident Sites  
1200 / \_\_\_\_\_  
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E/W TOWERS 11:05  
L. I. Cobb, IE

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G. W. Keimig  
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PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION

Region I Form 83  
(Rev. June 1981)

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