

PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION

PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION OF EVENT OR UNUSUAL OCCURRENCE--PNO-V: 81-44 *file*
 Date: August 13, 1981

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: Sacramento Municipal Utility District
 Rancho Seco Nuclear Power Plant
 Sacramento County, California
 Docket No. 50-312

Subject: MAIN TURBINE FAILURE



At 0315 hours (PDT) on August 13, 1981, while operating at 90 percent full power, indication of high vibration (off-scale) and high conductivity in hotwell (indicative of turbine blade failure) caused an immediate controlled shutdown. The main generator output breakers were opened at approximately 0345 hours. Auxiliary feedwater was initiated with suction from the condensate storage tank to keep impure condensate out of the steam generators.

This is a controlled normal shutdown procedure and the plant is expected to be in cold shutdown by 1700 hours (PDT) today. Preliminary evaluation of the damage indicates that pressure simulation baffles may have failed. These were put in the turbine during the last outage, to make up for damaged blades that were removed.

The total extent of damage and repairs will not be known until about August 21. At present, estimates of repair time are approximately 60 days.

The licensee is continuing investigation; the resident inspectors are following the licensee's progress.

Media interest is expected. The licensee is preparing a press release.

Region V (San Francisco) received notification of this occurrence from the Senior Resident Inspector at 0800 hours on August 13. This information is current as of 0900 hours, August 13, 1981.

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Distribution:
 Chairman Palladino
 Commissioner Gilinsky
 Commissioner Roberts
 Transmitted:

Transmitted H St. 10:08
 Commissioner Ahearne
 Commissioner Bradford
 ACRS

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 (For Distribution)

MNBB: 10:00 AR: 10:02
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 (For PDR/LPDR)

Willste Bldg: 10:10
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FOR POWER REACTORS ONLY: 10:10
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REGIONAL OFFICES: I II III IV

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PDR I&E

PNO-V-81-044

PDR

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