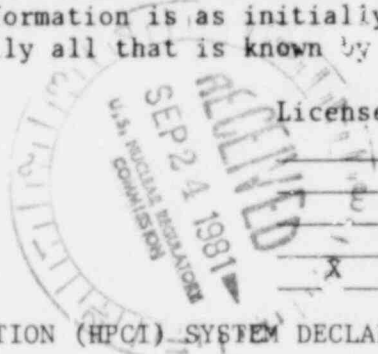


September 8, 1981

DMB

This preliminary notification constitutes EARLY notice of events of POSSIBLE safety or public interest significance. The information is as initially received without verification or evaluation, and is basically all that is known by IE staff on this date.

Facility: Commonwealth Edison Company
Dresden (Docket No. 50-237)
Morris, Illinois



Licensee Emergency Classification:
Notification of Unusual Event
Alert
Site Area Emergency
General Emergency
 Not Applicable

Subject: HIGH PRESSURE COOLANT INJECTION (HPCI) SYSTEM DECLARED INOPERABLE

On September 3, 1981, the licensee declared the HPCI system inoperable upon discovery of damaged pipe hangers for the HPCI steam line. The HPCI steam line is 10" in diameter and several hundred feet long of which about 40-60 feet was affected. The damage involved 2 high energy line break (HELB) whip restraints with concrete anchor bolts partially or fully pulled out and about 7 spring loaded vibration suppressors that were broken or indicating abnormal displacement. This piping was subjected to a severe water hammer incident in 1971 that resulted in replacement of a portion of the piping.

Studies by EDS, a private engineering contractor, via computer model, indicate the highest stress that the pipe was subjected to was 10,000 psi (35,000 psi is yield strength). The piping and supports have been examined by visual, ultrasonic, radiographic and magnetic particle tests and have shown no further damage.

An Immediate Action Letter defining the steps to be completed prior to declaring the system operable was transmitted to the licensee on September 4, 1981.

Region III inspectors and a Section Chief were on site during the weekend reviewing the licensee's compliance to the Immediate Action Letter.

Following the examination of the piping and hanger repairs, the licensee attempted to reheat the line but found a water buildup in a length of horizontal pipe. Therefore, the line was reisolated for further evaluation.

The unit is presently operating at nearly full power and in a 7 day LCO for HPCI operability. The Resident Inspectors and RIII are following the activity.

The State of Illinois is being notified.

No release of radioactive material has occurred as a result of this event.

The licensee has submitted a 24 hour and ENS notification to the NRC. There has been no media interest at this time.

The Region III office (Chicago) was informed of this event on September 3, 1981 by the Resident Inspector. This information is current as of 12:00 Noon, September 8, 1981.

Contact: T. Tongue (815) 942-9267 *RCK for*
F. W. Reimann FTS 384-2542 *RCK for*

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