

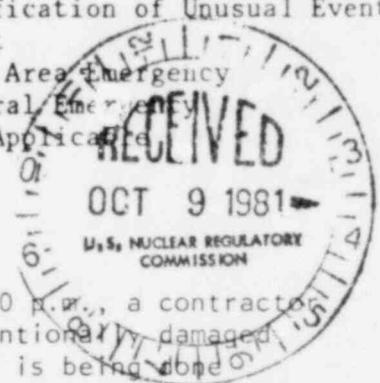
PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION OF SAFEGUARDS EVENT--PNS-III-81-09

October 5, 1981

This preliminary notification constitutes EARLY notice of events of POSSIBLE national security 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: Consumers Power Company
Palisades Nuclear Plant
Docket No. 50-255

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



Subject: POSSIBLE SABOTAGE OF SAFETY-RELATED WIRING

The licensee reported that on October 3, 1981, at approximately 6:40 p.m., a contractor employee found a safety-related cable that had apparently been intentionally damaged. The cable was part of a TMI and long-term cooling modification that is being done during the current plant outage. The insulation on the wire cluster had been cut and about one-half of the individual wires had been cut through. The wiring appeared to be related to control systems and was repaired in a short time. The damage did not degrade safe plant operation.

The wires were located in a controlled access area at the facility. The licensee has begun an investigation. A Region III (Chicago) Physical Protection Specialist will be sent to the site on October 6, 1981. The Detroit Office of the FBI was notified by Region III (Chicago). The FBI will not investigate at this time.

Neither the licensee nor Region III plan to issue a press release. The State of Michigan will be notified.

The Resident Inspector received notification of the incident following the plant's daily staff meeting at approximately 9:00 a.m., October 5, 1981. Region III received notification of this occurrence by telephone call from the Resident Inspector at 9:30 a.m., October 5, 1981. This information is current as of 2:00 p.m., October 5, 1981.

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