

December 23, 1981

PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION OF EVENT OR UNUSUAL OCCURRENCE PNO-II-81-118

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: Tennessee Valley Authority
Sequoyah Unit 2
Docket No. 50-328
Soddy-Daisy, Tennessee

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

SUBJECT: VIOLATION OF TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS

A resident inspector identified from a review of control room logs at 2:00 p.m. (EST) December 22 that the unit had operated for eight hours with a positive moderator-temperature coefficient. Technical specifications require a negative coefficient.

It was found from the review of the logs that a plant operator previously identified the condition and took appropriate corrective action at 4:00 a.m. (EST) on December 22. The plant went critical at 7:57 p.m. (EST) on December 21 following an outage for generator exciter repairs which began on November 14.

The unit was at 3 percent power when the event occurred and is currently at 20 percent power. It has operated at a maximum of 30 percent power during start-up testing which originally began on November 5.

A confirmation-of-action letter is being issued today by Region II. Resident inspectors are continuing to monitor plant operations and testing at the site. TVA's corrective actions will be reviewed by Region II specialist inspectors during their evaluation of the plant test program results before the unit is permitted to exceed the existing 50-percent power level limit. TVA has previously agreed to this NRC-imposed hold point.

No media interest has occurred. Neither the licensee nor the NRC plans to issue a press release. The State of Tennessee has been informed.

Region II (Atlanta) received notification of this occurrence by telephone from the resident inspector at 2:30 p.m. on December 22.

This information is current as of 10:30 a.m. on December 23.

Contact: R. V. Crlenjak, RII 242-5576

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