

DMS et al PN
DATE: 3/15/82
ecce

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: Southern California Edison Company
San Onofre Nuclear Generating Station
Unit No. 2
San Clemente, California
Docket No. 50-361

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

Subject: LOSS OF SHUTDOWN COOLING AND POSITIVE REACTIVITY ADDITION

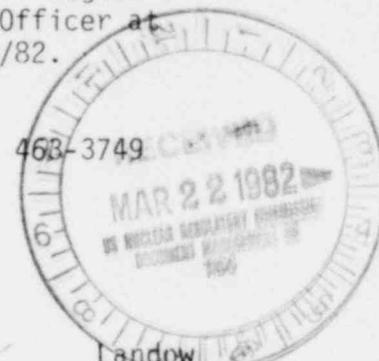
Shortly after 5:00 a.m. PST, 3/14/82, with the reactor in Mode 6 (core fully loaded with unirradiated fuel), the plant operators noted there was no flow in the Shutdown Cooling (SDC) train then in operation. The plant operators placed the redundant train in operation but obtained no flow from that train either. The operators attributed the flow failure to air binding of the pumps which utilize a common suction header. The licensee declared an Unusual Event at 5:57 a.m., and notified state and local agencies and the Headquarters Duty Officer.

The operators opened the pump suction valves to the Refueling Water Storage Tank (RWST) to reestablish pump prime. This operation was successful and the required flow was reestablished by 7:10 a.m. and the Unusual Event was declared terminated at 7:22 a.m. Because the boron concentration in the RWST (1,930 ppm) was less than that in the Reactor Coolant System (2,000 ppm), the Reactor Coolant System (RCS) concentration was reduced to about 1,960 ppm - still well above the Technical Specification (TS) limit of 1,720 ppm. Because the licensee calculated that the reactivity addition corresponding to this dilution (about 0.64 percent) exceeded the TS reporting limit for the subcritical condition (0.5 percent), this reactivity change was also reported to the Headquarters Duty Officer.

In adding water to the RCS from the RWST, an estimated 300 to 500 gallons of water overflowed from the Incore Instrumentation nozzles located in the Reactor Vessel head. Accordingly, the licensee is preparing to remove the partially tensioned Reactor Vessel head studs for cleaning and examination. As of 4:00 p.m., 3/14/82, the licensee was still investigating the cause of the air binding of the SDC pumps.

Media interest is expected. The NRC does not plan to issue a news release. Region V (San Francisco) received notification of this occurrence from the HQ Duty Officer at 6:35 a.m. on 3/14/82. This information is current as of 4:00 p.m. on 3/14/82.

CONTACT: D. Kirsch, 463-3723 or G. Zwetzig, 463-3749



DISTRIBUTION:

H. St. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	MNBB <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Phillips <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	E/W <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Willste <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Landow <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Chairman Palladino	EDO	NRR	IE	NMSS	OIA
Comm. Gilinsky	AEOD			RES	
Comm. Bradford	PA	Air Rights <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			
Comm. Ahearne	MPA	SP		INPO <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	MAIL:
Comm. Roberts	ELD			NSAC <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	ADM:Doc.Mgt.Br.

ACRS
SECY
CA
Regional Offices I, II, III, IV
8203230499 820315
PDR I&E
PNO-V-82-012 PDR

IE 34
3/10