

April 19, 1982

PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION OF EVENT OR UNUSUAL OCCURRENCE PNO-II-82-41

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: Virginia Electric & Power Company
Surry, Units 1 and 2 *281*
Docket Nos. 50-281 and 50-282
Surry, Virginia *281*

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

SUBJECT: UNPLANNED GASEOUS RELEASE

On April 18 at 5:45 p.m., while transferring gas from the waste gas overhead surge tank to the waste gas decay tank, a pressure relief valve lifted. An estimated 120 cubic feet of fission product gas, primarily Xenon, was released to the atmosphere through the process vent stack. The duration of the release was approximately five minutes.

VEPCO calculates that a total of 46.4 curies of noble gas was released. The estimated dose rate at the site boundary was 1.39 mr/hr. An individual standing at the site boundary would have received an estimated whole body dose totaling 0.085 millirem. The licensee reported that the release was 2.58 times the plant technical specification limit for an instantaneous release, but less than 1 percent of the quarterly technical specification limit.

No building evacuation was necessary, and no personnel overexposures were reported.

A Region II radiation specialist will be at the site on April 19.

Media interest is expected. VEPCO plans to issue a news release. Region II will respond to media inquiries.

The Commonwealth of Virginia has been informed.

Region II (Atlanta) received notification of this occurrence by telephone from the resident inspector at 8 p.m. on April 18.

The information is current as of 10 a.m. on April 19.

Contact: A. K. Hardin, RII 242-4182; H. C. Dance, RII 242-5585

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