

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 the staff on this date.

Facility: Indiana & Michigan Electric
D. C. Cook Nuclear Plant
Docket No. 50-315 Unit 1
Bridgeman, MI

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

Subject: FUEL ASSEMBLY DAMAGED DURING TRANSFER TO SPENT FUEL POOL

During refueling activities about 12:55 p.m. (CDT) August 4, 1982, a fuel assembly became wedged in the device used to move fuel assemblies from the vertical position into a horizontal position for movement through the fuel transfer canal leading to the spent fuel storage pool.

The tilting device was in the horizontal position instead of the proper vertical position to accept the fuel assembly. The fuel assembly became wedged between a lifting cable and the handling mast used to move the assembly. Initial attempts to move the fuel assembly were unsuccessful, and the licensee is currently developing procedures to free the assembly.

Unit 1 has been shut down for refueling and maintenance since July 2 but refueling activities did not begin until recently.

The NRC resident inspector is at the site and reports that the fuel assembly appears to be bent about 15 degrees approximately at its mid-point. There has been no evidence of breach of the fuel cladding and no release of radioactivity. The resident inspector will monitor the licensee's effort to free the fuel assembly.

Neither the licensee nor Region III (Chicago) plan to issue a news release at this time. There has been no news media interest.

Region III was notified of the incident at 1:55 p.m. (CDT) by the licensee using the Emergency Notification System. Additional information was obtained from the resident inspector. This information is current as of 4 p.m. (CDT) August 4, 1982.

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