

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: Northern States Power Company
Monticello Nuclear Power Station
Docket No. 50-263
Monticello, MN 55362

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

Subject: RECIRCULATION LOOP CAP CRACKING

The licensee performed ultrasonic testing on the end cap of the riser header for the A recirculation loop in the primary cooling system. (The plant has been shut down since September 2, 1982 for refueling.) The initial results showed four abnormal indications. Ultrasonic testing of the end cap in the B loop showed no similar indications.

The A loop header was isolated and drained. On September 28, 1982, the licensee performed radiography of the A loop cap. The radiographs showed four linear indications (cracks) extending from the weld root into the adjacent heat-affected zone. There is no through-wall cracking.

The licensee is currently evaluating repair procedures. The resident inspector is monitoring plant activities involved in the evaluation.

Neither Region III (Chicago) nor the licensee plans to issue a news announcement.

The State of Minnesota will be notified.

Region III was notified of the radiography results at 3:00 p.m., September 28, 1982. This information is current as of 4:00 p.m. (CDT), September 28, 1982.

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