

DGD

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 Region III staff on this date.

Facility: Braidwood Unit 1
Commonwealth Edison Co.
RR#1, Box 79
Braceville, IL 60407

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

OK
WJ

Docket No. 50-456

Subject: THREE WORKERS SPRAYED WITH REACTOR COOLING WATER

At 1:22 a.m. (CDT) on October 4, 1990, an equipment attendant and two engineers were sprayed with reactor coolant water when an isolation valve in the Residual Heat Removal (RHR) System was opened for a surveillance test while a vent valve on the same line was still open from another surveillance test. The reactor was in cold shutdown for a maintenance outage. Pressure in the reactor coolant system was 360 psi and the water temperature was 180 degrees F.

The equipment attendant was closing a vent valve on the RHR line following the first surveillance test, a reactor coolant system pressure isolation valve leakage surveillance. (A similar isolation valve in that same line was already open as part of the first surveillance.) At the same time, the isolation valve, for which leak testing had just been completed, was opened to perform the second surveillance, (a stroke timing test) subjecting the line to the reactor coolant system pressure. Before the vent valve could be fully closed, the increased pressure ruptured the flexible discharge tubing, spraying the equipment attendant and two engineers with reactor coolant water. One of the engineers notified the control room of the RHR system flow, and a control room operator - observing a drop in pressurizer level - shut the isolation valve. About 620 gallons of reactor water was sprayed into the work area.

The three workers were decontaminated by plant radiation protection personnel. One of the workers had a small second degree burn on his arm. He was taken to a local hospital for treatment.

An Augmented Inspection Team (AIT), headed by a Region III (Chicago) branch chief, has been formed to investigate the event. The Senior Resident Inspectors from the Byron and Dresden Nuclear Power Stations were dispatched to the Braidwood site to assist the Braidwood Resident Inspector in reviewing the event.

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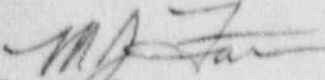
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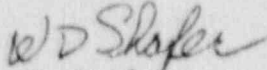
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The State of Illinois will be notified. The information in this Preliminary Notification has been reviewed with licensee management.

The licensee notified the NRC Operations Center of this event at 5:19 a.m. (CDT) on October 4, 1990. This information is current as of 1:00 p.m. (CDT) October 4, 1990.



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