

PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION OF EVENT OR UNUSUAL OCCURRENCE--PNO-I-90-79

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 I staff on this date.

Facility:	Licensee Emergency Classification:
New York Power Authority	<input type="checkbox"/> Notification of Unusual Event
Indian Point 3 Nuclear Power Plant	<input type="checkbox"/> Alert
Buchanan, New York	<input type="checkbox"/> Site Area Emergency
DN 50-286	<input type="checkbox"/> General Emergency
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Not Applicable

Subject: CONTROL ROOM OPERATORS INATTENTIVE TO DUTIES

On September 14, 1990 at 5 a.m., the NRC senior resident inspector noted that the two licensed operators in the Indian Point 3 control room had their eyes closed and appeared to be inattentive to their duties. The inspector immediately spoke to the operators, and they responded. The inspector informed the onshift supervisor outside of the control room of his observation, and the supervisor took action to station the assistant shift supervisor in the control room until the next shift reported for duty.

Licensee review of security records has established that the inspector entered the control room at 5:07 a.m. NYPA management stated that operating parameters were logged on the hour, minutes prior to the inspector's entry.

The New York Power Authority (NYPA) plans to shut down the reactor at midnight Friday, September 14 to begin a scheduled nine week refueling outage. As part of the shutdown, NYPA plans to provide 24 hour coverage of control room activities by independent management and operating personnel, as had been previously planned. NYPA has stated that the two operators involved in the incident will not return to licensed duties until the incident is resolved. Resident inspectors will be providing extended coverage of operations as a result of the incident.

The State of New York has been notified.

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