

PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION OF EVENT OR UNUSUAL OCCURRENCE--PNO-I-90-103

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:
Combustion Engineering Incorporated
Nuclear Fuel Fabrication Facility
Windsor Connecticut
(DN 70-1100)

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

SUBJECT: ONSITE FIRE

At about 12:45 p.m., on Thursday, November 29, 1990 a fire occurred outside the northwest corner of Building 17, the licensee's nuclear fuel manufacturing facility located in Windsor, Connecticut. The fire occurred when molten slag from a cutting torch ignited a wooden beam located in the north wall of the building. A licensee contractor was cutting reinforcement bar embedded in the wall of the CE-250-2 shipping container storage shed, which was attached to the Building 17 wall. The licensee was removing the wall of the storage shed in preparation for the installation of new equipment associated with a pending facility construction project. No breach of the inner wall to the contaminated area of the facility occurred. There is no evidence that any radioactive material was involved in this incident and surveys indicated that there was no radioactive contamination in the affected area. The local fire department responded to the site and attended the fire, which was declared out at 1:30 p.m. Personnel were evacuated from Building 17 as a precaution. The licensee has initiated an investigation into the causes and/or circumstances regarding this incident.

Media interest is expected because of prior publicity regarding this facility. NRC Region I is prepared to respond to media inquiries.

This PN is issued for information only. This incident will be reviewed during the next inspection of this facility, scheduled for the week of December 3, 1990. The State of Connecticut has been notified and has dispatched two representatives to the site.

Region I received notification of this occurrence by telephone from the licensee at 1:20 p.m., on November 29, 1990.

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PNO-I-90-103 FDC

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RI Resident Office _____

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Licensee: _____
(Reactor Licensees)

Region I Form 83
(Rev. April 1988)