

December 24, 1990

PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION OF EVENT OR UNUSUAL OCCURRENCE -- PNO-IV-90-45

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 IV staff on this date.

FACILITY: Arkansas Nuclear One, Unit 1  
Entergy Operations, Inc.  
Docket No. 50-313

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

SUBJECT: PLANT SHUTDOWN DUE TO UNISOLABLE PINHOLE LEAK IN PRESSURIZER LEVEL SENSING TAP

On December 22, 1990, at 10:11 a.m. CST, the licensee commenced a reactor shutdown due to an unisolable primary pressure boundary leak located at the penetration for pressurizer level Transmitter LT-1002. The licensee's emergency plan requires the declaration of a Notice of Unusual Event (NOUE) for any shutdown required by Technical Specifications and an NOUE was declared simultaneous to the commencement of the shutdown at 10:11 a.m. At the time that the shutdown commenced, the unit was at 1 percent power with postrefueling low power physics testing just completed. The leak on LT-1002 was of pinhole size, was identified by audible means, and was not visible. The leak is believed to be from a hole in the internal nozzle to pressurizer shell weld. The licensee currently plans to make a temporary repair to the nozzle by cutting the existing nozzle 1 inch inside the outer pressurizer face and welding a new nozzle to the outside of the pressurizer shell. The nozzle would remain in this configuration until permanent repairs can be made during the modification outage planned in April 1991.

The facility is currently in cold shutdown with the RCS and pressurizer cooled down to 90°F. Cold shutdown was reached at 7:49 p.m. December 22, 1990. The earliest completion of repairs could be December 27, 1990.

Neither the licensee nor the NRC plans to issue a press release.

The state of Arkansas has been informed.

Region IV received notification of this occurrence by the HQ duty officer at 11:10 a.m. (CST). Region IV has informed the EDO, NRR, and PAO.

This information has been confirmed with a licensee representative.

CONTACT: T. F. Westerman FTS: 728-8145

RJV:D:DRP  
SJCcollins;df  
12/24/90

RA B. BEACH  
for  
RDMartin  
12/24/90

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NRC OPS Ctr

Licensee (Reactor)

MAIL: DCS (Orig. IE34)  
DOT (Transp. Only)

(5520: 12/24/90 @ 10:25  
Regions & HQ)