

DCS No: 50423901231
Date: January 2, 1991

PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION OF EVENT OR UNUSUAL OCCURRENCE--PNO-I-91-1

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:
Northeast Nuclear Energy Co.	<input type="checkbox"/> Notification of Unusual Event
Millstone Nuclear Sta. Unit 3	<input type="checkbox"/> Alert
Waterford, Connecticut	<input type="checkbox"/> Site Area Emergency
Docket No. 50-423	<input type="checkbox"/> General Emergency
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Not Applicable

Subject: AIT DISPATCHED TO INVESTIGATE TURBINE BUILDING PIPE BREAK

On December 31, 1990, at 4:36 p.m., the reactor was manually tripped and main steam isolation manually initiated in response to a report of major steam leakage in the turbine building. At the time of the trip, the reactor was in pre-refueling coastdown at 87% of rated power. Preparations were in progress to isolate for repair a minor steam leak downstream of the "A" moisture separator reheater drain tank pump discharge flow control valve when this six-inch ID header ruptured. The six-inch discharge pipe from the "B" reheater drain tank pump, which runs parallel to the ruptured "A" header, also sustained a significant break. The sudden release of high energy steam into the turbine building initiated portions of the turbine building fire protection deluge system.

Several 480 VAC motor control centers and one non-vital 120 VAC inverter were rendered inoperable by the flooding, resulting in loss of the plant process computer, station and instrument air compressors, and momentary isolation of instrument air to the containment. The plant is stable in hot shutdown mode 3 with primary temperature being controlled with the main steam atmospheric dump valves. The licensee plans to remain in hot shutdown while restoring balance of plant systems and assessing damage in the turbine building.

The licensee notified the NRC operations center of the event via the emergency notification system and notified state and local officials pursuant to its emergency plan implementing procedures.

An augmented inspection team is being dispatched to the site to followup on the event.

The State of Connecticut has been informed.

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