

December 28, 1990

PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION OF EVENT OR UNUSUAL OCCURRENCE -- PNO-IV-90-46

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: Waterford 3
Entergy Operations, Inc.
Docket No. 50-382

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

SUBJECT: DECLARATION OF AN ALERT CLASSIFICATION DUE TO AN OCCIDENTAL CHEMICAL COMPANY CHLORINE GAS RELEASE

At 8:43 p.m. on December 27, 1990, while the plant was operating at full power, the shift supervisor was notified via the industrial hotline that Occidental Chemical Company had experienced a power failure at the plant with a resultant chlorine release at a concentration of 0.02 ppm at the levee, which was near Occidental's site boundary. The Occidental plant is 0.8 miles southeast of Waterford 3. St. Charles Parish declared a site area emergency at 9:07 p.m., at which time the licensee entered their off-normal and emergency procedures which required sheltering of site personnel. At 9:16 p.m. the licensee declared an Alert classification as required by their emergency plan, and the appropriate notifications were made, including the NRC at 9:42 p.m. The control room air conditioning system was already in the isolation mode due to a normal air intake balancing problem identified earlier in the day. Slight increases above background were noted on the broad range and chlorine gas monitors, but the alarm points of 3 and 2 ppm, respectively, were not reached so an automatic isolation would not have occurred. Although the wind could have carried the plume to Waterford 3, nobody onsite reported any chlorine odor. St. Charles Parish exited their emergency classification with an "all clear" at 9:44 p.m., and at 10:04 p.m. the licensee terminated the event by exiting the Alert. As of this report, there were no reported injuries of the Waterford 3 or Occidental plant personnel.

Media coverage has focused on the chlorine release and not on the Waterford facility. Although the licensee issued no press release, it brought some public information staff members into its corporate offices but received no inquiries. Region IV is prepared to respond to inquiries.

The state of Louisiana has been informed.

Region IV received notification of this occurrence by the HQ duty officer at 10:41 p.m. Region IV has informed the EDO's office, NRR project management, and the regional Public Affairs Officer.

This information has been confirmed with a licensee representative.

CONTACT: T. Westerman FTS: 728-8145

RIV: B/DRP
SJCg/11ns;df
12/28/90

RA *ide*
RDMartin
12/28/90

9101080005 901228
PDR I&E
PNO-IV-90-046 PDR

0/1
IE 3A

DISTRIBUTION:

OWFN			
Chmn. Carr	CA	NMSS	
Comm. Rogers	OGC	NRR	
Comm. Curtiss	GPA	SLITP	
Comm. Remick	PA	OE	
ACRS	EDO		

NMBB
 AEOD
 IRM
 OIG

L-St
 PDR
 EW-W
 ASLAP

NL
 RES

FAX:
 INPO
 PDR

NSAC
 RRI
 NRC OPS Ctr
 Licensee (Reactor)

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

(5520: 12/28/90 @ 11:00 AM
 Regions & HQ)

DISTRIBUTION:

<u>Node Local</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Address</u>	<u>NRC Office Receiving PN</u>
	NRCRMP	DEWODY	Temporary Route for AEOD on NRCRM
	NRCRM	AEODPN	AEOD/PDR (Patty Wilson)
	NRCRM	ROABPN	AEOD/ROAB (Marcia Karabelnikoff)
	NRCRMP	ASLAPDW	ASLAP (Displaywriter/PC)
	INRC1718	CARRPN	Chairman Carr (Connie Schum)
	INRC1718	CURTISPN	Commissioner Curtiss (Gigi Rammling)
	INRC0708	OEPN	Enforcement (Betty Summers)
	INRC1718	EDOPN	Executive Director for Operations (Doris Day)
	INRC1516	OGCPN	General Counsel (Dianna Papini)
	INRC1718	GRIGGS	Governmental & Public Affairs (Dianne Griggs)
	INRC1718	OCAPN	GPA:Congressional Affairs (Janice Hester)
	INRC02	OPAPN	GPA:Public Affairs (Gladys Ordaz)
	INRC0304	SLIPN	GPA:State/Local Indian Tribes Program (Kath Kerr)
	NRCRMP	IRMPN	IRM (Dick Hartfield)
	INRC0304	NMSSPN	Nuclear Material Safety & Safeguards (Pat Graaf)
	INRC0506	NMSSPN	Nuclear Material Safety & Safeguards (Cathy Jenkins)
	INRC1112	NRNPN	Nuclear Reactor Regulation (Joan Lindsay)
	NRCRES	RESPN	Research (Pat Thompson)
	NRCRI	RIPN	Region I
	NRCRII	RIIPN	Region II
	NRCRIII	RIIIPN	Region III
	NRCRIV	RIVPN	Region IV
	NRCRV	RVPN	Region V

* Does not include non-NRC locations (labs, utilities)