

DCS No: 50354910221
Date: February 22, 1991

PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION OF EVENT OR UNUSUAL OCCURRENCE--PNO-I-91-13

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:
Public Service Electric & Gas	____ Notification of Unusual Event
Hope Creek Generating Station	____ Alert
Docket No. 50-354	____ Site Area Emergency
Hancock's Bridge, New Jersey	____ General Emergency
	<u>X</u> Not Applicable

Subject: LICENSED OPERATOR TESTING POSITIVE FOR ALCOHOL

On February 21, 1991, during a scheduled physical examination, a licensed reactor operator (RO) was determined to have a blood alcohol concentration (BAC) of 0.01-0.02%. The Medical Review Officer calculated that the employee's BAC would have been greater than .04% at the individual's work start time of 7:00 a.m. The individual admitted to some alcohol consumption up until midnight prior to the start of the shift. Upon notification by the Medical Review Officer to Hope Creek Operations, the RO was suspended from plant access and all licensed duties and referred to the licensee's Employee Assistance Program.

According to operations management, the RO had reported for work at 7:00 a.m. as an extra-duty operator. He attended the shift turn-over briefing, then reported for his physical. He did not relieve an operator before taking the physical, nor did he exhibit any unusual or abnormal behavior while in the control room. Since the RO apparently proceeded directly from the security access to the control room area, it was considered unlikely that any unusual behavior would have been noted when he processed through the security screening area to obtain his access badge.

The NRC Operations Center was notified of this fitness for duty event by the licensee at 6:17 p.m. on February 21, 1991. The NRC Resident Inspector was also informed.

Resident and Regional Inspectors are following licensee actions.

The State of New Jersey has been notified.

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Licensee: _____
(Reactor Licensees)