

March 25, 1991

PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION OF EVENT OR UNUSUAL OCCURRENCE -- PNO-IV-91-09

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: Cooper Nuclear Station
Nebraska Public Power District
Docket No. 50-298

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

SUBJECT: SHUTDOWN DUE TO FEEDWATER CHECK VALVE LEAKAGE

On March 23, 1991, during power reduction to perform maintenance activities, the licensee discovered a leak from the outboard "B" loop feedwater check valve (15 CV) located in the steam tunnel. The leak was from the valve hinge pin and required securing the feedwater system to perform the repair. As a result, the licensee proceeded to shut down the reactor. The reactor was manually tripped from 20 percent power at 4 p.m. (CST) on March 23, 1991. The reactor is currently in cold shutdown.

The licensee has identified the cause of the check valve leakage to be an inappropriately installed flexitallic gasket. The licensee has completed repairs on the valve and is presently investigating the cause for the incorrect installation of the gasket.

The licensee is currently performing other maintenance activities and estimates reactor startup to begin at 12 noon on March 26, 1991.

This PN is being issued for information purposes.

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

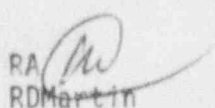
The state of Nebraska will be informed.

Region IV received notification of this occurrence by telephone from the resident inspector at 7:30 a.m. Region IV has informed EDO, NRR, and PA.

This information has been confirmed with a licensee representative.

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RIV:D:DRP
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(5520: 3/25/91 @ 10:54
 Regions & HQ)