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 staff on this date.

Facility: Consumers Power Company

Midland Nuclear Power Plant

Units 1 and 2

Docket Nos. 50-329 50-330

Midland, MI 48640

Licensee Emergency Classification:

Notification of Unusual Event

Alert

Site Area Emergency General Emergency

xx Not Applicable

Subject:

INADEQUATE QUALITY ASSURANCE FOR HVAC WELDER CERTIFICATION AND PROCEDURE

QUALIFICATION

All safety-related welding on the heating, ventilating and air conditioning (HVAC) was stopped November 30, 1972, after it was determined by the licensee that the quality assurance program for welder certification and procedure qualification was inadequate.

A licensee QA audit of Photon Testing, Inc., which performed testing of weld samples used in certifying welders and welding procedures, determined that the contractor did not have an adequate quality assurance program. Photon Testing has subsequently been removed by the licensee from the list of approved Midland vendors.

As a result of the audit findings, the HVAC contractor, Zack Company, has discontinued all welding on safety-related HVAC systems, laying off 151 crafts workers. Zack also discontinued the certification of new welders and withdrew all safety-related weld procedures.

The Photon Testing has performed testing services for HVAC welder and procedure qualifications since 1980.

Region III (Chicago) personnel are on site and will monitor the licensee's program to address the qualification of the Zack welders and procedures and to assess the quality of the completed HVAC welding work.

There has been local news media interest in the quality assurance problems and resulting a layoffs. Region III will continue to respond to news inquiries.

The State of Michigan will be notified.

The licensee reported the quality assurance inadequacies and HVAC worker layoffs as a potential 50.55e construction deficiency to Region III personnel at the site at 2 p.m., (EST), December 1, 1982. This information is current as of that time.

2 p.m., (EST), December 1, 1982. This information is current as of that time.

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