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PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION OF EVENT OR UNUSUAL OCCURRENCE--PNO-V:81-08

Date: February 20, 1981

This preliminary notification constitutes EARLY notice of events of POSSIBLE safety or public interest significance. The information presented is as initially received without verification or evaluation and is basically all that is known by IE staff on this date.

Facility: Portland General Electric Company  
Trojan Nuclear Plant  
Rainier, Oregon  
Docket No. 50-344

DESIGNATED ORIGINAL  
Certified By *Det Noack*

Subject: RESIN INJECTION INTO REACTOR COOLANT AND SUBSEQUENT UNPLANNED RELEASE OF AIRBORNE RADIOACTIVITY

During preparations for backflushing the Cation Demineralizer in the Chemical and Volume Control System (CVCS) on February 19, 1981, resin material entered the Reactor Coolant Letdown line through a partially open demineralizer inlet isolation valve. The resin plugged the Reactor Coolant Filter and subsequently entered the Volume Control Tank (VCT) where a small quantity (approximately one pound) was charged into the Reactor Primary Cooling System. Additionally, resins partially plugged the Reactor Coolant Pump Seal Injection Filters. The Facility continued at full power operation, as allowed by Technical Specifications. Filter changeout was commenced to remove the plugged filters. After the changeout of the Reactor Coolant Filter, a 3/4 inch drain valve was inadvertently left open allowing letdown water to continuously drain to the Auxiliary Building Drain Tank (ABDT). The ABDT subsequently overflowed into building sump. The out-gassing from the water resulted in a release to the Auxiliary Building and subsequently offsite through the exhaust ventilation. Approximately 1.5 curies of noble gas had been released between approximately 7:00 AM and 10:00 AM (PST) on February 20, 1981. A total of less than two curies release is estimated by the time cleanup is complete. The quantity of radioactive release was approximately 25 percent of that requiring written report to NRC. The quantity of Iodine released was less than 5 percent of that requiring NRC written notification. Reactor Coolant System chemistry was not adversely affected by the resin entry into the system. There were no personnel overexposures.

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

Region V is pursuing appropriate enforcement action on an apparent excessive delay (approximately 3 hours) in reporting of the airborne release to the NRC Duty Officer.

Region V (San Francisco) received notification of the release from IE:HQ Duty Officer at 10:00 AM (PST) on 2/20/81. This information is current as of 3:00 PM (PST) on 2/20/81. This matter is closed for purposes of Preliminary Notification.

CONTACT: J. Carlson, RV, 463-3741 J. L. Crews, RV, 463-3735

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IE:ZOOS: 4:05 (IE:HQ Dist.)

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