

DCS No: 50423901231
Date: January 4, 1991

PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION OF EVENT OR UNUSUAL OCCURRENCE--PNO-I-90-1A

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:
Northeast Nuclear Energy Co.
Millstone Nuclear Sta. Unit 3
Waterford, Connecticut
Docket No. 50-423

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

Subject: AIT AT MILLSTONE 3 TO INVESTIGATE TURBINE BUILDING PIPE BREAK

On January 3, an eight person augmented inspection (AIT) arrived on site to investigate the cause and effects of the December 31, 1990, moisture separator reheater drain line ruptures in the turbine building. The team consists of Region I and headquarters personnel. After receiving a briefing on the event from the resident staff, an entrance meeting was held with licensee personnel at 8:30 a.m.

Preliminary inspection results obtained indicate that the section of pipes which failed were inadvertently omitted from the licensee secondary system erosion/corrosion program and had therefore not been measured for wall thinning. Interviews with the operating crew directly involved in the event will commence today. The team continues to review plant performance during the event. The overall adequacy of the licensee erosion/corrosion program, planned additional non-destructive examination of feedwater system components and the adequacy of the licensee's recovery plan for equipment damaged during the event are still under review.

The team was informed that the licensee currently does not intend to perform a permanent repair to the ruptured pipes prior to the scheduled February 1 refuel outage. Current intentions are to cap the pipes and route the moisture separator reheater drains through an existing alternate path directly to the condenser. The team will review the adequacy of this measure.

The plant remains in a stable condition in hot shutdown mode 3 with primary temperature being controlled with the main steam atmospheric dump valves. Makeup water is being supplied by the auxiliary feedwater pumps from the condensate storage tank. Restoration of balance of plant systems continues. The auxiliary boiler was started on January 3 and load centers 32-3P and 32-3A are being restored which will permit the operation of the majority of turbine building equipment. The licensee is currently planning a plant startup Monday January 14.

The State of Connecticut has been informed.

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