

May 23, 1983

PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION OF EVENT OR UNUSUAL OCCURRENCE PNO-II-83-42

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 II staff on this date.

FACILITY: Duke Power Company
McGuire Unit 1
Docket No.50-369
Cornelius, North Carolina

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

SUBJECT: MEDIA INTEREST IN EMPLOYEE INJURY

An employee of Duke Power Company was injured at 9 a.m. (EDT) on May 21 while pressurizing an inflatable, bladder-like pipe plug to be used for a check valve leak test. Rupture of the bladder caused the man's left hand to hit adjacent piping, resulting in extensive cuts and several broken bones, as well as contamination of the hand.

The employee was taken off site to Charlotte (North Carolina) Memorial Hospital, accompanied by Duke health physics technicians. The contamination, which presented no health hazard, amounted to 4000 counts per minute on the back of the hand and 1200 counts per minute to the palm. The hand was decontaminated to 400 counts per minute above background. The employee was treated for his injuries and was discharged from the hospital on May 22. He returned to work today.

Because of the injury, an unusual event was declared at the plant at 9:40 a.m. on May 21 and was terminated at 2:25 p.m. that same day. McGuire Unit 1 was shut down for maintenance at the time of the event. Unit 2 has completed low power physics testing.

Media interest has occurred. Duke did not issue a news release, but responded to inquiries. The NRC does not plan a news release.

The State of North Carolina has been informed.

The licensee informed the NRC headquarters incident response center of this occurrence by telephone at 9:55 a.m. (EDT) on May 21. This information is current as of 11:30 a.m. (EDT) today.

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