

November 28, 1994

PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION OF EVENT OR UNUSUAL OCCURRENCE PNO-II-94-050

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 Region II staff (Atlanta, Georgia) on this date.

Facility

Virginia Power Co.
Surry 1 2
Surry, Virginia
Dockets: 50-280, 50-281

Licensee Emergency Classification

X Notification of Unusual Event
Alert
Site Area Emergency
General Emergency
Not Applicable

Subject: UNEXPECTED CHEMICAL REACTION

On November 25, 1994, the licensee for the Surry nuclear facility reported the declaration of an unusual event associated with a chemical explosion in the plant's radwaste facility. The unusual event was declared at 9:13 pm and exited the same day at 11:45 pm when the licensee determined that there was no further threat of another explosion. Subsequent investigation by the licensee determined that an explosion had not occurred. Rapid carbon dioxide generation during a hydrogen peroxide flush to remove chemical sediment in the tank's bottom had resulted in a rapid pressurization. The tank's view port blew out when tank pressure exceeded approximately 30 psig. An individual who was climbing a ladder on the tank was injured when he fell approximately 12 feet. The uncontaminated individual was treated at a nearby hospital for a fractured ankle and injured heel. The individual was released from the hospital and was at work today. The facility sustained only minor damage. Besides damage to the tank's view port, ceiling tiles and light fixtures were either blown down and/or damaged.

The Senior Resident Inspector responded to the site to monitor licensee activities.

The Commonwealth of Virginia was informed. The licensee does not plan to issue a press release.

The NRC received initial notification of this event by telephone from the licensee at 9:40 pm on November 25, 1994.

This information is current as of 10:00 a.m. on November 28, 1994.

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PDR I&E
PNO-II-94-050 PDR

*Sent 11-28-94
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