

September 20, 1983

PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION OF EVENT OR UNUSUAL OCCURRENCE PNO-II-83-77

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 known by the Region II staff on this date.

FACILITY: Tennessee Valley Authority
Sequoyah Units 1 and 2
Docket Nos. 50-327 and 50-328
Soddy-Daisy, Tennessee

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

SUBJECT: CONDENSATE STORAGE TANK OVERPRESSURIZATION

The licensee reports that the "B" condensate storage tank (CST) was overpressurized on September 16, causing physical deformation of the tank. Preliminary information indicates that the problem was caused by a crossed piping connection in the nitrogen bubbler system for the two CSTs which serve both units. The system was set up to circulate nitrogen through the "A" CST but was apparently aligned with the "B" CST with the "B" vents shut. The nitrogen bubbles up through water in the tank and forces air out the vents to provide an "air-free" source of water. The overpressurization and tank deformation occurred when nitrogen was introduced into the wrong tank with closed vents.

Unit 1 continues operation at 100 percent power. Unit 2 is down for refueling. The "A" CST was not affected.

The licensee is continuing to review the circumstances associated with this event. Region II will evaluate the adequacy of corrective actions.

No emergency classification was declared or required.

Media interest is not expected, and neither the licensee nor the NRC plans to issue a news release.

The State of Tennessee has been informed.

Region II (Atlanta) received initial notification of this event by telephone from the resident inspector at 8:00 a.m. (EDT) on September 19.

This information is current as of 10:00 a.m. on September 20.

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