

June 14, 1984

PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION OF EVENT OR UNUSUAL OCCURRENCE PNO-II-84-36

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: Virginia Electric & Power Company
Surry Unit 1
Docket No. 50-280
Surry, Virginia

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

SUBJECT: MAIN FEEDWATER PUMP SHAFT SEAL FAILURE WHILE AT 100 PERCENT POWER

A shaft seal on Unit 1's "A" main feedwater pump failed at 3:30 a.m. (EDT) on June 13 while operating at 100 percent power. This resulted in a lo-lo level in the "A" steam generator which caused a reactor turbine trip.

Hot feedwater exiting through the failed seal produced a considerable amount of steam in the feedwater pump area of the turbine building, but there were no injuries and no reports of damage.

The licensee's preliminary investigation of the event indicated that lubricating oil to the pump's shaft bearings was interrupted, causing them to bind and resulting in the failed shaft seal.

The licensee tested the "B" main feedwater pump and found that it has developed a stator electrical ground caused by condensation in the motor.

Steam from the event came from water on the secondary side of the plant, exceeded no allowable radiation limits, and posed no threat to the health and safety of workers or the general public when vented from the auxiliary building to the atmosphere.

Region II will conduct followup inspections into the licensee's examination of the cause of this event and the adequacy of the licensee's proposed corrective action.

The licensee does not plan to issue a news release. The NRC does not plan to issue a news release. Media interest has not occurred.

The Commonwealth of Virginia has been informed.

Region II received initial notification of this event by telephone from the Resident Inspector at 3:59 p.m. (EDT) on June 13, 1984.

This information is current as of 9:00 a.m. (EDT) on June 14.

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PNO-II-84-036 PDR

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