

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 III staff on this date. DOD

Facility: Palisades Nuclear
Power Station
Covert, MI

Licensee Emergency Classification
General Emergency _____ Site Area Emergency _____
Alert _____ Unusual Event _____ N/A X

Docket No. 50-255

Subject: EARLY START TO REFUELING OUTAGE TO CORRECT MSIV DESIGN DEFICIENCY

On February 6, 1992, the licensee shut the unit down in accordance with the commitments made in a Temporary Waiver of Compliance granted by the NRC on February 5, 1992, to correct a recently discovered design deficiency involving the Main Steam Isolation Valves (MSIVs). The licensee determined that the corrective action to the design deficiency could not be safely accomplished with the plant at power operations. On February 7, 1992, the licensee decided to begin the unit's refueling outage ahead of its scheduled February 22 start.

The design deficiency involved inadequate physical and electrical separation of components required to operate the MSIVs. A possible steam line break sequence could prevent the operation of solenoid valves which are needed to close the MSIVs.

The licensee will correct the deficiency during the refueling outage, which is expected to last about 70 days.

The State of Michigan will be notified. The information in this preliminary notification has been reviewed with licensee management.

Region III (Chicago) was informed of the licensee's decision to begin the refueling outage early on February 7, 1992. This information is current as of 11 a.m., February 7, 1992.

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