

August 6, 1984

PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION OF EVENT OR UNUSUAL OCCURRENCE PNO-II-84-46

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 2
Docket No. 50-370
Cornelius, North Carolina

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

SUBJECT: CHEMICAL AND VOLUME CONTROL SYSTEM LETDOWN LINE BREAK

On August 6, 1983, at 2:45 a.m., while Unit 2 was in cold shutdown condition a packing ring blew-out from the chemical and volume control system letdown line valve which cross-connects to the residual heat removal system.

In conjunction, a line break occurred at the elbow of a 2-inch socket weld consisting of a 360 degree circumferential break, located approximately 15 feet from the affected valve; seven pipe supports were damaged as a result of the transient. The break occurred inside the auxiliary building room, discharging approximately 3500 gallons of primary system water into the sump area. Cause of the valve and pipe failure is currently unknown, but appears to be indicative of a water hammer.

Although the auxiliary building room has been contaminated and the radiation levels are as high as 500 mR background, there was essentially no offsite radioactive release nor plant personnel overexposure. The licensee investigation of this event is in progress. The NRC Senior Resident Inspector and Region II specialists are following up on this event.

The State of North Carolina has been informed.

Media interest is expected. The licensee plans to issue a news release. The NRC does not plan to issue a news release.

This information is current as of 1:30 p.m. (EST) on August 6, 1984.

Contact: A. Ignatonis, RII 242-5562; V. L. Brownlee, RII 242-5583

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