

March 10, 1992

WTS

JM

PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION OF EVENT OR UNUSUAL OCCURRENCE -- PNO-IV-92-18

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 IV staff on this date.

FACILITY: Entergy Operations, Inc.
Arkansas Nuclear One, Unit 2
Docket: 50-368

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

SUBJECT: UNPLANNED OUTAGE GREATER THAN 48 HOURS

On March 9, 1992, at 7:30 p.m., Unit 2 shut down to repair a steam generator (SG) tube leak. At approximately 12:30 p.m., the control room operators noted a step increase in the condenser off-gas radiation monitor, followed by an increase in SG blowdown activity levels. After analyzing the off-gas samples and conducting reactor coolant system (RCS) mass balance calculations, the leakage was quantified at approximately 0.2 to 0.25 gpm, with the A SG determined to be the source of the leak. The licensee's Technical Specifications require plant shutdown if SG tube leakage exceeds 0.5 gpm from a single SG.

A leak in the A SG had been previously identified, however, the leak rate was minimally detectable and unable to be quantified. During Unit 2's refueling outage in April 1991, the licensee attempted to locate the leaking tube by pressuring the secondary side of the SG with helium and utilizing a gas probe. The tube defect was not of sufficient size to be detected using this method.

Unit 1 is presently in the 10th day of a planned 58-day refueling outage, with the RCS in reduced inventory and core off-load planned to begin March 11, 1992. The licensee is currently evaluating the increased shutdown risk associated with both units in outages. Preliminary indications suggest that the outage schedule for Unit 1 may slip, in order to support the Unit 2 work and to maintain electrical and other site support equipment at the highest state of reliability.

Other maintenance planned for this outage includes replacement of pressurizer code safety valves that have been identified as having some leakage and changing electrical transformer taps to meet commitments made in response to the electrical distribution safety functional inspection conducted in September 1991.

The licensee has not issued a press release, informed the news media, or responded to news media inquiries.

The licensee plans to issue a press release on March 11, 1992.

The state of Arkansas will be informed.

Region IV received notification of this occurrence by telephone from the resident inspector at 8:15 p.m. (CST). Region IV has informed EDO, NRR, and PA.

This information has been confirmed with a licensee representative.

CONTACT: W. D. Johnson FTS 728-8148

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(5520: 3/10/92 @ 10:30
Regions & HQ)

(PHONE VERIF: 3/10/92 @ 10:32
NRR 964-1168 or 964-1166)