

August 20, 1984

PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION OF EVENT OR UNUSUAL OCCURRENCE PNO-II-84-52

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

SUBJECT: LEAK INSIDE CONTAINMENT

Duke Power Company declared an unusual event at 7:35 a.m. (EDT) today after a leak initially estimated at 50 gallons per minute developed inside containment while the upper head injection system was being filled and checked for air entrapment. By 9:30 a.m., the leak rate had dropped to less than 20 gallons per minute.

The unit, shut down for maintenance and repair activities since July 27, was being prepared for restart and was not yet critical. When the leak began, reactor pressure was 1800 pounds per square inch and temperature was 520 degrees Fahrenheit. Both temperature and pressure are steadily decreasing under controlled conditions.

Duke believes the leak may have been caused when a sight glass on the upper head injection system blew out when the system was pressurized. Workmen have entered containment to ascertain the source of the leak and to isolate it. Two persons who were sprayed with water when the leak first began were found not to be contaminated.

No environmental release has occurred, and there has been no pressure build-up inside containment. The containment is isolated. McGuire Unit 1 is operating at 100 percent power.

The resident inspector is in the control room. Region II is sending three specialist inspectors to the site.

Media interest is expected. The licensee is preparing a news release which will be issued shortly. Region II is prepared to respond to inquiries.

The State of North Carolina has been informed.

Duke informed the NRC headquarters incident response center of this incident at 7:35 a.m. today.

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PNO-II-84-052 PDR

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