

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 staff on this date.

DMB

Facility: Duane Arnold Energy Center
Iowa Electric Light and Power Co.
Palo IA

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

Docket No.50-331

Subject: FIRE IN COOLING TOWER SWITCHGEAR BUILDING

At 9:40 a.m. on September 5, 1984, a fire was discovered in the building housing the electrical switchgear for the A cooling tower. The building is on the plant site outside the protected area. No safety-related structures were involved.

The building was destroyed, disabling the cooling tower because the switchgear provides power to the cooling tower fans and lighting. The B cooling tower was not affected. The reactor was operating at 100% power at the time of the fire, but reduced power to 60% because of the loss of cooling capability.

The plant fire brigade, the Palo Fire Department, and the Linn County Sheriff's Department responded to the fire. It was extinguished at 10:18 a.m.

The licensee suspects that the fire started in an electrical panel associated with the cooling tower lighting. Problems with the panel had occurred earlier.

The licensee declared an Unusual Event at 9:59 a.m. and intended to terminate the Unusual Event classification when the off-site fire department left the site.

The State of Iowa was notified of the Unusual Event by the licensee under its emergency plan.

Region III was notified of the fire at 10:12 a.m., September 5, 1984, by the Senior Resident Inspector. This information is current as of 11:30 a.m., September 5, 1984.

R. DeFayette

W. Shafer

CONTACT: R. DeFayette, 388-5767; W. Shafer, 388-5656

DISTRIBUTION:

H. St. <u>12:47</u>	MNBB <u>12:48</u>	Phillips <u>12:54</u>	E/W <u>12:45</u>	Willste <u>12:52</u>
Chairman Palladino	EDO	NRR	IE	NMSS <u>?</u>
Comm. Roberts	PA		OIA	RES
Comm. Asselstine	MPA		AEOD	
Comm. Bernthal	ELD	Air Rights <u>12:50</u>		MAIL:
Comm. Zech		SP	INPO <u>1:22</u>	ADM:DMB
SECY			NSAC <u>1:21</u>	DOT: Trans Only
ACRS				
CA				
PDR				

Regions I 1:05, II 1:15, IV 1:35, V 1:38 Applicable Resident Site 1:21 Licensee (Corporate Office) 1:30

JE34
0%