

February 1, 1996

PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION OF EVENT OR UNUSUAL OCCURRENCE PNO-IV-96-005B

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 Region IV staff in Arlington, Texas on this date.

Facility

Wolf Creek Nuclear Oper. Corp.  
Wolf Creek 1  
Burlington, Kansas  
Dockets: 50-482

Licensee Emergency Classification

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

Subject: COLD WEATHER PROBLEMS CONTINUE

This updates PNO-IV-96-005A, issued on January 31, 1996. On January 31, the licensee implemented temporary modifications to connect air and hot water to the warming line for Train A of essential service water (ESW). This air and hot water was released from spargers in the bottom of the intake bay near the trash rack. In addition, air was injected below the surface of the water outside the trash rack using air hoses and hot water was pumped to this area. By 7:30 p.m. (CST), the combined effects of these efforts had cleared the Train A ESW forebay of ice. The Train A ESW pump was started at 2:45 a.m. on February 1 and has been operating well since that time.

Train B of ESW continued in service. No operational problems were encountered with this train through the night. Air sparging with a temporary sparger lowered through the ice and the pumping of hot water outside the trash rack were successful in breaking up and dissipating the ice in the Train B forebay.

Today, both trains are in service to determine operability for license requirements and preparations are in progress to perform a surveillance test on Train A.

The unit entered Mode 5 at 10:48 p.m. (CST), and reactor coolant system temperature is being maintained at about 195 degrees F. The licensee plans to remain in the NOUE override and Region IV will remain in the monitoring mode. Extremely cold weather is expected tonight.

Region IV has informed the states of Kansas and Missouri and FEMA Region VII.

The licensee has issued several press releases to update the public on the situation.

This information has been discussed with the licensee and is current as of 3 p.m. (CST).

Region IV has informed the EDO staff, NRR, AEOD and PA.

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