

June 4, 1992

PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION OF EVENT OR UNUSUAL OCCURRENCE -- PNO-IV-92-26

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: River Bend Station
Gulf States Utilities
Docket: 50-458

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

SUBJECT: POTENTIAL TRANSPORT OF RADIOACTIVE MATERIAL OFFSITE

On June 3, 1992, Gulf States Utilities identified that the plant Normal Service Water and Division II Standby Service Water Systems were very slightly contaminated. Radiological samples of service water identified very low levels of Co-60 and Mn-54 of about 1 to 2 E-07 uCi/ml, which are below reportable limits. Earlier, approximately May 30, the licensee had contracted with Churchill Environmental Services to provide filtering services for service water cleanup after extensive modifications to the Normal Service Water System and extensive chemical cleaning of the Normal Service Water and Division II Standby Service Water systems. These filter presses and support equipment left the site on June 2, 1992. The filter media was retained by the licensee and is currently on site. If the licensee's radiological analysis is accurate, there is a potential that radioactive material was transported offsite.

The licensee dispatched Radiation Protection technicians to the equipment laydown yards to survey the equipment and determine the extent of radioactive material transport, if any. Equipment is located in Baton Rouge, Morgan City, Lafayette, and Lake Arthur, LA.

The source of contamination in the service water system is not known.

Region IV resident inspectors are onsite and reviewing the licensee's evaluation of the event.

The licensee has not issued a press release.

The state of Louisiana has been informed.

Region IV received notification of this occurrence by telephone from the Senior Resident Inspector at 7:45 a.m. on June 4, 1992. Region IV has informed EDO, NRR, and PA.

This information has been confirmed with a licensee representative.

CONTACT: P. H. Harrell 817/860-8250

RIVER DRP
ABB:ach;df
6/4/92

RA: [Signature]
RDMartin
6/4/92

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(5520: 614/92 @ 11:30
Regions & HQ)

(PHONE VERIFY: 614/92 11:35
A. Byrdson, NRR 964-1168
or 964-1166)