

September 24, 1984

PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION OF EVENT OR UNUSUAL OCCURRENCE PNO-II-84-61A

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: Mississippi Power & Light Company
Grand Gulf Unit 1
Docket No. 50-416
Port Gibson, Mississippi

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

SUBJECT: STEAM LEAK - UPDATE

This PN updates PNO-II-84-61, issued on September 21.

Grand Gulf Unit 1, which resumed operation on September 21 after a shutdown to repair a steam leak in a main steam bypass loop pressure reducer assembly, shut down from 19 percent power at 5:10 a.m. (EDT) yesterday after another steam leak was detected in the turbine building. No personnel contamination or measurable environmental radioactive release occurred. The leak was isolated.

This leak was caused by a seven-inch crack which runs lengthwise from a section of old pipe, through the new weld and into part of new piping which was installed when the pressure reducer assembly in the "A" bypass loop was replaced. The crack located in this non-safety-related system is upstream from the new pressure reducer assembly and is 90 degrees around the pipe from the location of the cracks found earlier. This bypass loop had operated about 20 hours before this new steam leak developed. No steam leaks have occurred in the "B" and "C" bypass loops.

Mississippi Power and Light is arranging for on-site analysis of this failure by metallurgical specialists from Middle South Services and Bechtel Corporation as well as by failure analysis personnel from General Electric. All recent repair welding in this area was performed by Bechtel.

Region II is dispatching a welding/metallurgical specialist to the site. As previously indicated, a Region II specialist was on site during evaluation of the initial failure.

Media interest is expected because of continuing coverage of Grand Gulf's start-up activities. The licensee does not plan a news release, but is prepared to respond to inquiries. Region II does not plan a news release.

The State of Mississippi has been informed.

This information is current as of 2 p.m. today.

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PNO-II-84-061A PDR

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