

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.

Facility: Commonwealth Edison Company
 Dresden Nuclear Power Station
 Unit 3
 Morris, IL 60450
 Docket No. 50-249

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

Subject: CONTROL ROD FAILS TO INSERT BECAUSE OF FAULTY VALVE

At 3:26 p.m. (CDT), October 20, 1984, while operating at 94 percent power, the unit scrambled on a low reactor water level signal. The licensee determined that the cause of the scram was a faulty master level controller in the feedwater control system. The controller was subsequently replaced.

During the scram, control rod J-07 failed to insert properly, moving only six inches into the core, from position 48 (full out) to position 46. The rod was inserted manually by an operator. Although the one rod failed to automatically insert, the reactor was still made subcritical because of the insertion of the other 176 control rods.

The licensee investigated the incident and determined that a manual valve downstream of the scram outlet valve had failed with the valve disk disengaging from its stem.

The valve was replaced. The licensee sampled 10 percent of the remaining valves, dismantling them to determine if there were any problems similar to the failed valve. There were none. The valves were reassembled, and the licensee is now conducting control rod surveillance to verify that the control rods were not affected by the valve inspections. The surveillance includes friction testing and rod scram timing. The licensee will also conduct a differential pressure test on the rod that did not originally insert to further verify the operability of that drive.

If no other problems are detected, the licensee will return the unit to power. Region III (Chicago) has been monitoring the licensee's activities and has coordinated the information regarding this event with NRR and IE.

The State of Illinois will be notified.

Region III was first notified of this event at 3:45 p.m. (CDT), October 20, 1984. This information is current as of 11:30 a.m. (CDT), October 22, 1984.

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DISTRIBUTION:

H. St. <u>3:09</u>	MNBB <u>3:29</u>	Phillips <u>3:45</u>	E/W <u>3:07</u>	Willste <u>3:30</u>
Chairman Palladino	EDO	NRR	IE	NMSS
Comm. Roberts	PA		OIA	RES
Comm. Asselstine	MPA	Air Rights <u>4:06</u>	AEOD	
Comm. Bernthal	ELD	SP	INPO <u>4:17</u>	MAIL:
Comm. Zech			NSAC <u>4:14</u>	ADM:DMB
SECY				DOT: Trans Only
ACRS				
CA				
PDR				

Applicable Resident Site 4:03
 Regions I 4:23, II 4:05, IV 4:15, V 4:16 Licensee (Corporate Office) 4:05

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 PDR I&E
 PNO-III-84-088 PDR