

Date: August 26, 1994

PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION OF EVENT OR UNUSUAL OCCURRENCE PNO-III-94-71

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 III staff on this date.

Facility

Commonwealth Edison Co.
Quad Cities 1 and 2
Cordova, Illinois

Licensee Emergency Classification

General Emergency
Site Area Emergency
Alert
Unusual Event
X Not Applicable

Docket Nos. 50-254. 50-265

Subject: REACTOR TRIP DUE TO SPURIOUS MSIV CLOSURE SIGNAL

On August 23, 1994, Unit 2 reactor tripped from full power due to main steam isolation valve (MSIV) closure. The MSIVs closed as a result of a spurious signal from the main steam line high flow instrumentation. The unit has remained shut down to complete the root cause investigation and to permit plant staff to focus attention on Unit 1 startup activities. Unit 1 started up on August 25 following a refueling outage.

The licensee's investigation of the Unit 2 MSIV closure concluded that the most likely cause was an accidental bumping of the instrument racks for the main steam line high flow instruments. Plant technicians were working at the instrument racks holding eight of the sixteen steam flow instruments at the time of the incident. Instrument line vibration is also believed to be a contributor to the spurious signal. The licensee was able to reproduce the MSIV closure signal by "tapping" the supports for the instrument rack. The rack is enclosed by a protective cage because of previous problems associated with these instruments. However, two supports for the racks are located outside the cage. Planned corrective actions include installation of support padding, additional training to increase personnel awareness of rack sensitivity, and evaluation of previously recommended actions such as instrument replacement and reduction of line vibration.

The States of Illinois and Iowa will be notified. The information in this preliminary notification has been reviewed with licensee management.

This information is current as of 1 p.m. on August 26, 1994.

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