

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 Co.  
Braidwood Nuclear Power Station  
Braceville, IL 60407  
Docket no: 50-456  
50-457  
Subject: CONSTRUCTION FATALITY

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

A 28-year old pipefitter died on February 17, 1985, of burns received in a construction accident the previous day at the Braidwood construction site.

The accident occurred in the Turbine Building where argon gas in a pipe had been displaced with pure oxygen instead of normal air. (Argon is an inert gas used during welding.) The pipefitter attempted to grind a weld inside the pipe, and sparks from the grinding ignited his clothing which burned rapidly because of the pure oxygen.

The worker was taken by the Braidwood (Illinois) Fire Department ambulance to St. Joseph Hospital in Joliet, Illinois, and later transferred to the burn unit of Loyola Medical Center in Maywood, Illinois.

The State of Illinois will be informed.

Region III (Chicago) was notified of the accident on February 19, 1985, by the Resident Inspector. This information is current as of 3 p.m. February 19, 1985.

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PNO-III-85-018 PDR

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