

PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION

Date: March 14, 1980

PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION OF EVENT OR UNUSUAL OCCURRENCE--PNO-111-80-45B

This preliminary notification constitutes EARLY notice of events of POSSIBLE safety or public interest significance. The information presented is as initially received without verification or evaluation and is basically all that is known by IE staff as of this date.

Facility: Commonwealth Edison Company
Quad Cities Nuclear Power Station, Unit 2
Docket Number: 50-265
Cordova, IL

Subject: CRACK IN CORE SPRAY PIPING

This PN is an update of PNO-111-45 & 45A issued on March 10 & 12, 1980.

The licensee has completed an ultrasonic examination of the core spray piping in both A & B loops located in the drywell. The findings indicated cracking of the welds in the 90° elbow upstream of the safe end and cracking in the next upstream 90° elbow to valve weld. The indications were identical for both loops. No indications of cracking were found on the remaining welds in either loop.

The licensee's findings and proposed corrective actions were discussed during a conference call on March 13, 1980, which included R111, IE, NRR and CECO representatives. The licensee's plans and corrective actions, which were found acceptable by the NRC, included the following:

1. Replacement of the affected piping in both loops with low carbon steel pipe in accordance with recommendations of NRC. This includes the piping run from about 6 inches upstream of the safe end up to and including the second elbow. The repair will consist of four dissimilar welds of carbon to stainless steel in each loop and the existing manual valve in each loop will be reinstalled.
2. The repair described in item 1 is intended to be an interim fix. The final resolution of this problem will be made based on the results of the metallurgical analysis of the cracks.

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PN0-III-80-45B

March 14, 1980

Facility: Commonwealth Edison Company
Quad Cities Nuclear Power Station, Unit 2
Docket Number: 50-265
Cordova, IL

Subject: CRACK IN CORE SPRAY PIPING

3. The licensee will ship a section of the piping and defective weld to the Brookhaven National Laboratory, and the NRC will conduct an independent metallurgical examination of the sample.
4. Until final resolution of this problem has been achieved, ultrasonic examinations of the core spray piping in both loops located in the drywell will be performed at future plant outages as follows:
 - a. For Unit 1, which is currently operating at full power, all welds will be examined during the next outage of sufficient duration.
 - b. For Unit 2, which is currently shutdown, the safe end weld and the two dissimilar metal welds at each end of the replacement piping run will be examined at the next refueling outage.
5. The licensee will document their plans and corrective actions in a letter to the NRC.

As a result of this problem and the necessary repairs, the licensee estimates that the present outage will be extended about five weeks. Plant startup is now scheduled for April 13, 1980.

The licensee's repair efforts will be inspected by an RITP Piping Specialist Inspector.

Neither the licensee nor Region III are planning a news release.

The State of Illinois is being notified.

This information is current as of 2:00p.m. on March 14, 1980.

Contact: N. J. Christopoulos, Resident Inspector, 309/654-2227; R. L. Spessard, RITP, 384-2547; D. H. Danielson, RIII; 384-2695.

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