

DCS No: 50293850927  
Date: September 27, 1985

PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION OF SAFEGUARDS EVENT --PNS-I-85-13

This preliminary notification constitutes EARLY notice of events of POSSIBLE national security or public interest significance. The information is as initially received without verification or evaluation, and is basically all that is known by the Region I staff on this date.

Facility: Boston Edison Company  
Pilgrim Nuclear Power Station  
Plymouth, Massachusetts  
DN 50-293

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

Subject: DISCOVERY OF DAMAGED SPENT FUEL HANDLING EQUIPMENT

At about 11:30 a.m., September 27, 1985, the Resident Inspector became aware of the licensee's discovery, at about 9:15 a.m. on September 27, 1985, that the mast on the refueling bridge over the spent fuel pool was bent. The mast grapple was attached to a spent fuel assembly. The licensee presently has no explanation as to the evolution of this situation, but a corporate investigator is at the site reviewing the matter. Authorized fuel handling activities were last conducted on September 26, 1985, and the equipment was reportedly secured at about 2:50 p.m. No fuel damage is apparent, and all fuel assemblies have been accounted for. The licensee, in consultation with Region I has restricted access to the refueling floor, is conducting tests and inspection of engineered safety features to assure their operability and has established additional access controls over this equipment.

Two Region I inspectors are being dispatched to the site to review the incident.

Unrelated to the above incident, but because of the impending passage of hurricane Gloria, the licensee has initiated a power reduction from 100% to about 25% of full power.

The Information Assessment Team and the Commonwealth of Massachusetts have been informed.

Licensee is prepared to respond to any news media inquiries they may receive.

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