

PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION

Date: September 5, 1980

PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION OF EVENT OR UNUSUAL OCCURENCE--PNO-111-80-170

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: Northern States Power Company (Prairie Island 1)
Docket No. 50-282
Red Wing, MN

Subject: FAILURE OF "VASCOMAX 250 - 1 1/2 INCH HELI-COIL SCREWS", STEAM GENERATOR UPPER SUPPORTS

The licensee initiated action to detension the 1 1/2" bolts between the steam generator supports and the steam generator as a result of recommendations related to evaluations performed per NUREG-0577. Efforts to remove the bolts resulted in breaking two bolts on one support column. The licensee suspended efforts to remove remaining bolts and conducted UT examination of all the bolts for both steam generators. The UT examination identified additional defects. Unit 1 is currently shutdown for refueling.

The licensee shut down Unit 2 at 1900 hours on September 4, 1980, to perform UT examination of these bolts.

Preliminary evaluation indicates that the cause could be stress corrosion cracking as discussed in NUREG-0577 and NRR letter dated May 19, 1980, which forwarded NUREG-0577 for comment.

The licensee has resumed efforts to remove bolts for further examination, and is exploring sources for replacement bolts, as there are no spares available.

Unit 2 would be expected to be shut down for approximately 3 days to complete the inspection.

The licensee made a press release during the afternoon on September 4, 1980. The NRC does not plan to make a press release at this time. This information is current as of 9:00 on 9/5/80.

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