## PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION OF EVENT OR UNUSUAL OCCURRENCE PNO-I-97-039

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 Region I staff in King of Prussia, Pennsylvania on this date.

| Facility | Licensee Emergency Classification |
|---|---|
| Northeast Utilities | Notification of Unusual Event |
| Millstone 3 | Alert |
| Waterford, Connecticut | Site Area Emergency |
| Dockets: 50-423 | General Emergency |
| | X Not Applicable |

Subject:  SPENT FUEL POOL HEATUP

At about 8:00 a.m., on June 26, 1997, a licensed operator noticed that the spent fuel pool temperature had increased about 2.5 degrees F since the last reading taken eight hours earlier.  A system walkdown revealed that the reactor plant component cooling water (RPCCW) system was lined up to the wrong spent fuel pool heat exchanger.  Spent fuel pool water was flowing through the other heat exchanger that was not being cooled by RPCCW.  Operators realigned the spent fuel pool system to restore spent fuel pool cooling.  The system misalignment and subsequent spent fuel pool temperature increase was not noticed for approximately 28 hours.

Based on subsequent computer temperature data, the spent fuel pool temperature increased from 87 degrees F at 5:30 a.m., on June 25, 1997, to a maximum of nearly 98 degrees F at 9:30 a.m. June 26, 1997.  The spent fuel pool temperature remained well below the alarm setpoint of 125 degrees F.

The licensee has assembled an event review team to investigate this occurrence.  The QA organization has formed an independent review team to investigate this event as well.

The licensee informed the State of Connecticut of this event.  The licensee is planning to issue a press release.

This information has been discussed with the licensee and is current as of 1:00 p.m. on June 27, 1997.


Contact:   ARRIGHI, RUSSELL        LANNING, WAYNE
           (860)447-3170           (610)337-5126