

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 Region III staff on this date.

Facility: Illinois Power Company  
Clinton  
Clinton, IL 61727

Cocket No. 50-461

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

Subject: RADIOACTIVE WATER SPILL INSIDE EQUIPMENT ROOM

About 5 p.m. on April 12, 1988, approximately 1,000 gallons of radioactive water drained from the Residual Heat Removal (RHR) system piping into an equipment room. The unit has been shut down since March 19, 1988, for maintenance and testing.

No one was in the equipment room when the spill occurred, but two workers received minor radioactive contamination on their shoes, clothing, and hands when they entered and discovered the spill. They were successfully decontaminated.

The spill occurred when RHR system valves were returned to their normal positions following leak rate testing of a containment isolation valve in the system. These valve movements allowed water contained in the piping to drain through another valve which had been disassembled for maintenance.

The water which drained from the RHR system was collected in the equipment room sump and pumped to the radioactive waste water treatment system for processing. The licensee established appropriate radiological controls for the equipment room and initiated cleanup of the room and equipment contamination.

The resident inspector arrived at the plant about 11 p.m. to review the licensee's handling of the incident.

The State of Illinois will be notified.

Region III was notified of the spill by the resident inspector. This information is current as of 10 a.m., April 13, 1988.

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