

September 9, 1988

PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION OF EVENT OR UNUSUAL OCCURRENCE PNO-OSP-88-014

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 OSP staff on this date.

FACILITY: Tennessee Valley Authority
Sequoyah Units 1 and 2
Docket Nos. 50-327 and 50-328
Soddy Daisy, Tennessee

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

SUBJECT: MEDIA INTEREST IN AUXILIARY BUILDING PRECAUTIONARY EVACUATION

The licensee reported that at 6:23 a.m. (EDT) September 8, a slight increase in auxiliary building radiation levels was detected by health physics personnel. No alarm was received nor limits exceeded, but the licensee decided to evacuate the auxiliary building, common to both units, as a precaution until an air sample was evaluated.

Levels decreased, and the results of the air sample indicated no significant increase in radioactivity.

At 9:00 a.m. (EDT), entry was again opened to the building. There was no need to declare an emergency classification. No offsite release occurred.

The licensee is investigating the cause of the small increase in radioactivity and is planning a press release.

The resident inspectors were notified and will perform routine follow-up.

The State of Tennessee will be informed.

The NRC received formal notification of this event by telephone from the licensee to the headquarters duty officer at 10:24 a.m. (EDT) on September 8.

This information is current as of 1:00 p.m. (EDT) on September 8, 1988.

This notification is being issued due to local media interest.

CONTACT: B. D. Liaw - 492-0769

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