

May 19, 1988

*doc*

PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION OF EVENT OR UNUSUAL OCCURRENCE -- PNO-IV-88-44

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 IV staff on this date.

FACILITY: Louisiana Power & Light Co.  
Waterford 3  
Taft, Louisiana  
DN: 50-382

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

SUBJECT: EMPLOYEE RADIOLOGICAL OVEREXPOSURE DUE TO HOT PARTICLE

On May 18, 1988 a Westinghouse employee working in the refueling area of the containment received a dose of approximately 18.0 REM to the skin on his abdomen. A hot particle (commonly referred to as "fuel fleas") had lodged itself in the employee's protective clothing. The quarterly limit is 7.5 REM. Exposure to the particle containing 1.3 microcuries of fuel was conservatively estimated at about 155 minutes. The employee was not in a hot particle control area, but was rigging material to the reactor head area which was in a hot particle control area. Later the same day a man working in the deep end of the refueling cavity picked up a sliver of metal on his face mask (respirator) and received a dose of less than one REM. The sliver was not a fuel flea, but appeared to be a shaving that could have come from discarded incore instrument cutting.

Surveys of all hot particle control areas and the areas both individuals worked in revealed no problems. However, the licensee upgraded the area worked by the Westinghouse employee to a hot particle control area, tightened hot particle controls and increased frequency of surveys, and changed dress requirements to include wet suits and forced air hoods.

Waterford-3 is currently in a shut down, cooled down condition and has just completed the closure of the reactor subsequent to the second refueling.

The resident inspectors are monitoring licensee actions.

The licensee does not plan to issue a press release at this time.

The state of Louisiana will be informed by the licensee.

This information has been confirmed with a licensee representative.

CONTACT: D. D. Chamberlain (FTS 728-8249)

DRP *WJ*  
LJCallan:cnm  
5/19/88

RA *W*  
RDMartin  
5/19/88

*1034*  
*0/1*

8805260345 880519  
PDR I&E  
PNO-IV-88-044 DCD

DISTRIBUTION:

H. St.  
Chairman Zech  
Comm. Roberts  
Comm. Bernthal  
Comm. Carr  
Comm. Rogers  
SECY  
CA  
PDR  
OGC-H  
GPA  
ACRS

MNBB  
AEOD  
OIA  
  
NL  
RES

OWF  
EDO  
OGC  
ARM  
PA  
OI  
NMSS  
NRR  
SLITP

MAIL: DCS (Original IE 34)  
DOT (Trans only)

FAX: INPO  
NSAC  
RRI  
NRC OC  
LICENSEE (Reactor Lic.)

5520: 5/19/88 @ 3:05 p.m.  
REGIONS & HQ