

*Approved by
per. J. Ralige*

March 30, 1992

PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION OF EVENT OR UNUSUAL OCCURRENCE PNO-II-92-20

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 II staff on this date.

FACILITY: North Anna Power Station
Virginia Power Company
Docket No. 50-339

*Rec'd 3/30
@ 3PM*

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

SUBJECT: NORTH ANNA HOT PARTICLE CONTAMINATION EVENT

On March 27, 1992, a hot particle was detected on the forehead of a health physics technician when exiting the Radiation Control Area. The particle was visible and easily removed from the employee's forehead using tape. The licensee believes that the employee was exposed to the hot particle while assisting a Unit 2, "A" steam generator channel head worker remove outer protective clothing.

The initial evaluation by the licensee indicated the hot particle was a 5.327 microcurie fuel fragment consisting predominantly of Niobium-95 and Zirconium-95. Using methodology similar to the VARSKIN dose code and a 3 hour and 13 minute exposure time (based on containment card reader data), the dose to the skin was estimated at approximately 49.4 Rem and 17.1 uCi-hrs which is less than the NRC beta emission criterion of 75 uCi-hrs, used for enforcement consideration.

The licensee's assessment of this event is ongoing. No erythema was observed, and the employee is scheduled to visit a company physician as a precaution. Region II will continue to monitor follow-up activities.

The NRC received initial notification of this event from the licensee at 13:29 (EDT) on March 28, 1992.

This information is current as of 09:30 on Monday, March 30, 1992.

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