

PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION OF EVENT OR UNUSUAL OCCURRENCE--PNO-I-89-48

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 I staff on this date.

Facility:
Public Service of New Hampshire
Seabrook, Unit 1
Seabrook, New Hampshire
Docket No. 50-443

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

Subject: MANUAL REACTOR TRIP DURING NATURAL CIRCULATION TESTING

At about 12:35 p.m., June 22, 1989, while conducting the natural circulation startup test, the operators manually tripped the reactor from about 3% power. During the test, a steam dump valve to the main condenser stuck open, resulting in a reactor coolant system (RCS) temperature and pressurizer level decrease. Operators restored the charging system and raised pressurizer level. As pressurizer level increased, RCS pressure increased to the manual reactor trip criterion established in the startup test procedure.

The operators regained control of the steam dump valve and closed it, restarted a reactor coolant pump and stabilized the plant in Mode 3 (Hot Shutdown).

The licensee has issued a press release and media interest is anticipated. The State of New Hampshire and the Commonwealth of Massachusetts have been informed.

The Senior Resident Inspector, a regional startup inspector and the Deputy Regional Administrator were in the control room observing the test at the time of the event.

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