

*PDR advance by
Per J. Pathy*

PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION

December 2, 1976

PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION OF EVENT OR UNUSUAL OCCURRENCE--PNO-76-204

This preliminary notification constitutes EARLY notice of an event of POSSIBLE safety or public interest significance. The information presented is as initially received without verification or evaluation and is basically all that is known by IE staff on this date.

Facility: Salem Unit No. 1 (DN 50-272)

Subject: INADVERTENT SAFETY INJECTIONS

Three inadvertent safety injections (SIs) occurred at 10:39 p.m., 11:01 p.m., November 30 and 2:39 a.m., December 1, 1976. The reactor was in Mode 3 (hot shutdown) during each occurrence. Initial criticality has not yet been achieved.

The first two SIs were initiated by low Reactor Coolant System (RCS) average temperature (Tav) in conjunction with a spurious high steam flow signal in steam line 14. During these SIs the following occurred:

1. SI flow lasted for 3 minutes (First SI) and 2 minutes (Second SI).
2. The reactor trip breakers did not open and the "B" SI Train valves did not actuate in either SI.

The third SI was initiated by low steam pressure in steam line 14 compared to the other lines. There was no SI flow because the boron injection tank valves were closed to adjust boron concentrations due to the first two SIs. Reactor trip breakers and valves in both SI trains operated properly.

The licensee's preliminary evaluations indicate the following:

1. The reactor trip breakers and "B" SI train did not respond in the first two SIs, probably because the duration of the actuation signal was not sufficient to drop the bistables.
 2. The steam safety valve in steam line 14 relieved below its setpoint due to an improper setting.
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A Region I inspector is on site reviewing the occurrences.

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Media interest is expected because of close attention given to occurrences at Salem. The State of New Jersey has been informed. A press release is not planned.

NRC, Region I, (Philadelphia) received notification of this occurrence by telephone from the inspector onsite at 11:15 a.m., December 1, 1976. The information is current as of 3:00 p.m., December 1, 1976.

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