

PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION OF EVENT OR UNUSUAL OCCURRENCE -- PNO-I-12-003

This preliminary notification constitutes EARLY notice of events of POSSIBLE safety or public interest significance. Some of the information received may not yet be fully verified or evaluated by the Region Staff.

Facility

PPL Susquehanna, LLC
Susquehanna Unit 1
Berwick, PA
Docket: 50-387

Licensee Emergency Classification

☐ Notification of Unusual Event
☐ Alert
☐ Site Area Emergency
☐ General Emergency
☒ Not Applicable

SUBJECT: SHUTDOWN EXPECTED TO BE GREATER THAN 72 HOURS TO REPAIR A LEAK FROM A CHEMICAL DECONTAMINATION PIPE ON THE '1A' REACTOR RECIRCULATION LOOP

The licensee for Susquehanna Unit 1 commenced an unplanned shutdown on June 19 to conduct an inspection to identify the source of a leak into the drywell. The leakage had increased from 0.13 gallons per minute (gpm) to 1.62 gpm over a 4 day period.

The licensee identified a leak in reactor coolant pressure boundary piping in the weld for a decontamination connection on the '1A' reactor recirculation loop. The leak occurred in the weld where the decontamination pipe is connected to the 28 inch diameter reactor recirculation suction line. The decontamination connection, which is sealed with a bolted blank flange/cover during plant operations, is a pipe approximately 10 inches long and 4 inches in diameter. This pipe is welded to the reactor coolant system piping on the suction side of the '1A' reactor recirculation pump. The connection is designed to be used on an infrequent basis during outage periods to decontaminate the reactor coolant system piping.

The licensee took the plant to cold shutdown to repair the leak. The licensee is currently developing plans for repairing the weld, performing extent of condition inspections, and conducting a root cause analysis of the cracked weld. The Resident Inspectors and a Regional specialist will continue to review the circumstances surrounding the event.

The NRC Resident Inspectors monitored the shutdown and will continue to evaluate the shutdown, repair activities, and corrective actions.

The information presented herein has been discussed with PPL Susquehanna management and is current as of June 20, 2012.

The Commonwealth of Pennsylvania has been notified.

Region I Public Affairs is prepared to respond to media inquiries.

ADAMS Accession Number: ML12173A367

CONTACT: Paul G. Krohn
(610) 337-5120

DISTRIBUTIONS:

BY E-MAIL:

OWFN

Chairman Jaczko
Comm. Svinicki
Comm. Apostolakis
Comm. Magwood
Comm. Ostendorff
OIP
OCA
OGC
OPA
EDO
OE
NRR
SECY
IRO
ACRS
NSIR
NRO
PDR
RSLO
Regional Offices

TWFN

NMSS
OIG
RES

By Fax:

DOT:Trans
INPO
NSAC
RI Resident Office
Licensee: PPL Susquehanna, LLC

DOCUMENT NAME: G:\DRP\PNS\PNO-I-12-003 - SUSQUEHANNA SHUTDOWN DUE TO RCS LEAK REV1.DOCX

ADAMS Accession No: **ML12173A367**

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> SUNSI Review		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Non-Sensitive <input type="checkbox"/> Sensitive			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Publicly Available <input type="checkbox"/> Non-Publicly Available	
OFFICE	RI/DRP	RI/SLO	RI/PAO	RI/ORA	RI/DRP	RI/ORA
NAME	PKrohn/PGK	NMcNamara/NM	DScrenci /DS	ADeFrancisco/ADef	DRoberts/JWC for	WDean/ADef for
DATE	06/20 /12	06/20 /12	06/20 /12	06/ 21/12	0621 /12	06/21/12

OFFICIAL RECORD COPY