

June 7, 1985

PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION OF EVENT OR UNUSUAL OCCURRENCE PNO-II-85-57

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: Duke Power Company
Catawba Unit 1
Docket No. 50-413
Rock Hill, South Carolina

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

SUBJECT: SUSPECTED BREACH OF VITAL AREA BARRIER

Duke Power Company is investigating the cause of an apparent breach of a plant vital area, found about 12:45 p.m. (EDT) yesterday by a security officer on routine patrol. A Region II security inspector has been dispatched to the site.

The security officer discovered the condition after observing that a fire door was propped open and, upon further inspection, found open an access panel to the ventilation duct which is adjacent to the fire door. The officer then found that a security barrier inside the ventilation duct had been forcefully bent back. A check inside the vital area disclosed that another access panel to the same ventilation duct had been forcefully opened from inside the duct, which measures 32 inches square. Conditions found indicated that an individual could have breached the vital area barrier, but once inside the vital area in question, one does not have access to any other vital area.

Duke immediately posted a security officer at the barrier. Knowledgeable operations personnel who inspected the equipment inside the vital area found no abnormal conditions.

Catawba Unit 1, now in hot shutdown, has been out of service since April 20 for repair of a safety injection pump. Catawba Unit 2 is under construction.

Duke is prepared to respond to media inquiries.

Region II has informed the Information Assessment Team and the State of South Carolina.

Duke informed the NRC headquarters incident response center of this incident at 4:35 p.m. yesterday. This information is current as of 10 a.m. today.

Contact: W. J. Tobin, 242-5096

H. C. Dance, 242-5533

DISTRIBUTION:

H. Street 1:35
Chairman Palladino
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Comm. Bernthal
Comm. Zech
SECY
ACRS
CA

MNBB 1:43	Phillips 1:27	E/W 1:37	Willste 1:30	MAIL:
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Regions: R12:09, R31140, R41145, R51:47
Licensee: R53
(Reactor Licensees)
Applicable Resident Site 1:52

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