

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 staff on this date.

Facility: Commonwealth Edison Co.  
Dresden Unit 3  
Morris, IL 60450

Docket No: 50-249

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

Subject: SHUTDOWN TO REPAIR SCRAM DISCHARGE SOLENOID VALVES, MAINTENANCE

At 1:39 p.m. (CST), September 19, 1985, while operating at 81 per cent power, the reactor scrammed because an instrument mechanic bumped a printed circuit board. This caused the turbine control valves to close which resulted in high readings on the Average Power Range Monitors (APRM). Unrelated to the scram the reactor building was subsequently evacuated because of an apparent steam leak and high radiation alarms.

The source of the steam was traced to the control rod drive hydraulic system. The licensee determined that primary water was released into the reactor building when a number of scram discharge valves failed to reseal properly, leaking water into the scram discharge instrument volume, and out vent and drain valves, which were open (as they should have been).

The licensee later determined that the scram discharge valves failed to reseal properly because of leakage in their associated solenoid valves.

Four persons received slight contamination. None received an internal exposure. No technical specifications were exceeded.

The plant will remain shut down while the licensee repairs the solenoid valves and performs other maintenance modifications.

The resident inspectors and Region III (Chicago) are monitoring the licensee's course of action.

The State of Illinois will be notified.

Region III was first notified of the scram at 3:25 p.m. (CDT), September 19, 1985. This information is current as of 1:30 p.m. (CDT), September 20, 1985.

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