

July 30, 1985

PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION OF EVENT OR UNUSUAL OCCURRENCE PNO-II-85-74

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: Tennessee Valley Authority
Sequoyah Unit 2
Docket No. 50-328
Soddy-Daisy, Tennessee

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

SUBJECT: MINOR CONTAMINATION OF EMPLOYEES FROM LEAKING PRIMARY COOLANT SAMPLE LINE

The licensee declared an Unusual Event on July 29 at 11:57 p.m. (EDT) when a leak of approximately 15 gallons per minute developed through a weld area of a 3/4-inch sample line which branches off the reactor coolant system letdown line, inside the auxiliary building.

Particulate monitoring high radiation alarms activated, and the auxiliary building was isolated as its gas treatment system was being activated.

The leaking sample line, located between the letdown heat exchanger and a three-way diverter valve, was secured by isolation of the normal charging and letdown system. The reactor coolant pump seal injection flow rate was reduced, and the excess letdown path was opened to maintain water inventory control.

Eleven electricians and technicians working in the vicinity of the leak received some skin and protective clothing contamination. One person had face contamination of 100,000 disintegrations per minute. The others had less. All were successfully decontaminated at the plant. Whole body counts detected no identifiable body burdens. There were no injuries.

There was no radioactive release to the environment outside the auxiliary building.

Media interest occurred following the licensee's announcement of the event on its automated telephone call-in recording service.

The State of Tennessee has been informed.

Both units continued to operate at 100 percent power.

The NRC received initial notification of this event by telephone from the licensee to the headquarters incident response center at 12:15 a.m. (EDT) on July 30.

This information is current as of 12 noon (EST) on July 30.

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