

April 25, 1997

PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION OF EVENT OR UNUSUAL OCCURRENCE PNO-IV-97-021A

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 Region IV staff in Arlington, Texas on this date.

Facility

Omaha Public Power District
Ft Calhoun 1
Fort Calhoun, Nebraska
Dockets: 50-285

Licensee Emergency Classification

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

Subject: EXTRACTION STEAM LINE BREAK - UPDATE

This provides updated information relating to Preliminary Notification PNO-IV-97-021 issued on April 22, 1997, describing an extraction steam line break at the Fort Calhoun Station.

The licensee has informed the NRC that approximately 100 contractors will be used to remove the asbestos insulation debris which was scattered in the turbine building as a result of the event. Special environmental controls related to the asbestos debris have impacted the licensee's damage assessment process. The licensee anticipates complete asbestos removal by the first week in May.

The licensee also plans to conduct extensive walkdown inspections to identify and assess potential damage to plant equipment incurred as a result of the rupture. The plant equipment includes electrical cables, motor control centers, fire protection system, structural supports, and the turbine generator system.

A multidiscipline investigation team with several industry representatives is being assembled by the licensee to review the circumstances surrounding the event and to conduct a root cause analysis. The failure mode of the ruptured steam piping will also be evaluated by contract metallurgists.

Region IV will dispatch a special inspection team on April 28, 1997, to review the licensee's assessment and evaluate safety-related equipment and fire protection system responses, as well as operator responses to the event.

Region IV has notified OPA, OEDO and NRR.

The states of Nebraska and Iowa will be informed.

This information has been discussed with the licensee and is current as of 11 a.m. (CDT).

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