

PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION OF EVENT OR UNUSUAL OCCURRENCE--PNO-V-85-89 Date: 12/23/85

This preliminary notification constitutes EARLY notice of events of POSSIBLE safety or public interest significance. The information presented is as initially received without verification or evaluation and is basically all that is known by Region V staff on this date.

FACILITY: Sacramento Municipal Utility District
Rancho Seco Nuclear Power Plant
Sacramento County, California
Docket No. 50-312

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

SUBJECT: UNIDENTIFIED REACTOR COOLANT LEAK AT RANCHO SECO

On December 22, 1985, at 4:34 PM PST, while operating at 97% power, the licensee detected an unidentified reactor coolant system leak of 15-20 gpm. The licensee commenced plant shutdown and declared an unusual event at 4:42 PM. The NRC headquarters duty officer was notified of the event at 5:06 PM. The plant was in hot shutdown at 6:15 PM and being cooled down at the rate of 20°/hr. At 6:53 PM the source of the leak was thought to be identified when the isolation valve on the pressurizer liquid sample line was closed. At that time reactor temperature and pressure was stabilized and at 8:05 PM a 60 minute leak rate test was initiated. At 9:05 PM the leak rate was determined to be 0.17 gpm, and it was confirmed that the source of the leak was a 3/4" pressurizer liquid sample line. At 9:10 PM the licensee secured from the unusual event.

At 9:15 PM personnel entered containment and determined the 15-20 gpm leak was caused by loose valve steam packing on pressurizer sample line valve SFV 70001. While in containment the loose packing was readjusted.

The licensee currently plans on repacking the problem valve. The licensee is developing an action plan for power resumption which is expected to occur late Monday (12/23/85) or early Tuesday (12/24/85).

Region V personnel were in the Region V Incident Response Center and at the reactor site throughout the course of this event.

This information is current as of 8:30 AM PST on 12/23/85.

CONTACT: A. Chaffee
FTS 463-3753

J. Perez
209-748-2791

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