

June 7, 1985

PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION OF EVENT OR UNUSUAL OCCURRENCE PNO-II-85-58

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
McGuire Units 1 & 2
Docket No. 50-269/50-270
Cornelius, North Carolina

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

SUBJECT: CALCULATED SKIN OVEREXPOSURE (Beta)

The licensee has reported that an individual received a calculated overdose of radiation to a small area of the skin in the underarm area.

The calculated dose to the skin was 10.6 rads (Beta), and the NRC limit for whole body exposure to the skin is 7.5 rems per calendar quarter.

The contamination was due to a single particle of what the licensee determined to be 1.2 microcuries of Cobalt-60. The person was decontaminated by wiping under the arm with a towel. It is believed that the particle was transferred there from protective clothing worn by the individual.

To date, the licensee has found single particles of Cobalt-60 on the clothing or skin of eight individuals since April 16, 1985. The licensee believes, based upon investigation thus far, that the particles are "stellite" particles, from valve seats, which have passed through the core and become activated. The licensee believes that the particles have been released from the reactor coolant system during maintenance operations.

The amount of exposure to the individual is not expected to produce any adverse health effects.

A Region II radiation specialist will follow up on this event and monitor the licensee's corrective action to assure compliance with NRC requirements.

Media interest has not occurred.

The State of North Carolina has been informed.

Region II (Atlanta) received initial notification of this event by telephone from the licensee at 11:00 a.m. (EDT) on June 7.

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