

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 III staff on this date.

Facility: Northern States Power
Prairie Island Unit 1
Welch, MN 55089

Docket No. 50-282

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

Subject: SHUTDOWN TO REPAIR MINOR LEAK

On March 10, 1988, while operating at 80 percent power, sample results from the Unit 1 sump indicated that a small amount of reactor coolant was leaking. Inventory measurements showed the leakage to be less than 0.1 gallon per minute. The Technical Specification limit for unidentified reactor coolant leakage is 1.0 gallons per minute.

Visual inspection inside containment revealed misting in the area of the reactor head. A later inspection determined that the leak was in a seal weld on an instrument column in the reactor head.

The licensee began a controlled shutdown with cooldown completed at 3:22 a.m. (CST), March 11. Preparation for seal weld repairs is in progress. The plant is expected to be shut down for 72 hours. Region III (Chicago) and the resident inspectors are monitoring the situation.

The State of Minnesota will be notified.

Region III was notified of this event at 11 a.m. (CST), March 10, 1988. This information is current as of 10 a.m. (CST), March 11, 1988.

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Region III
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