

## **N58. ONTARIO HYDRO: PREVENTATIVE MEASURES FOLLOWING OVEREXPOSURE**

Radiation exposures in excess of legal limits have occurred in Ontario Hydro's nuclear facilities. The most serious incident occurred in August 1989 when three workers were accidentally exposed while removing an irradiation cobalt adjuster rod at Pickering A. Two individuals exceeded the annual whole-body dose limit of 50 mSv, with doses of 127 mSv and 92 mSv, respectively. Following an extensive investigation, the following major changes were ordered:

- **Hardware.** Adjuster rod removal is now performed with personnel remaining in remote locations.
- **Procedures.** Relevant procedures were reviewed to ensure that appropriate barriers are in place for high hazard work
- **Personnel.** A more rigorous approach to training for workers involved in high hazard work.
- **Management.** A more rigorous approach to assigning responsibilities for the system to avoid oversights.

*For more, see Armitage, G., "Doses coming down at Ontario Hydro," Nuclear Engineering International, pp. 50-52, November 1990.*