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Comanche Peak leak creates 'unusual event'

Associated Press

GLEN ROSE - Water leaked from the reactor coolant system of Unit No. 2 at the Comanche Peak nuclear plant early today, prompting officials to declare an "unusual event."

TU Electric spokesman Mark Manroe said the leak was discovered at 5:15 a.m. Unit No. 2 is in the early stages of testing, he said. The leak amounted to 1.08 gallons of water per minute. The Nuclear Regulatory Agency requires that the plant declare an "unusual event" if the leakage is more than 1 gallon per minute, Manroe said.

An "unusual event" is the lowest category of emergency at a nuclear power plant, according to NRC regulations, he added.

Manroe said plant officials were attempting to discover the source of the leak.

"It's a very small leak at a large unit," he said.