

NASHVILLE, Ark. copy right TEXARKANA GAZETTE — A boiler room outside Tyson's main plant in Southwest Arkansas exploded overnight, injuring two people and causing the plant's cook room to be temporarily closed, Mayor Billy Ray Jones said.

The main plant will continue to process chickens today.

Jones said it was his understanding two men were conducting an inspection inside the boiler room at the time of the explosion but were able to walk out on their own power and were talking to emergency workers who responded to the fire, Jones said.

They had burns to their arms, legs and face and are receiving medical attention.

"It was a pretty bad deal," Jones said.

The boiler room was totally destroyed and some of its components are needed to cook the chickens in the main plant.

The explosion occurred at about 1:30 a.m. Thursday and was under control by 4:30 a.m., he said.