

Date: July 5, 2012

PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION OF EVENT OR UNUSUAL OCCURRENCE -- PNO-I-12-003A

This preliminary notification constitutes EARLY notice of events of POSSIBLE safety or public interest significance. Some of the information received may not yet be fully verified or evaluated by the Region Staff.

Facility

PPL Susquehanna, LLC
Susquehanna Unit 1
Berwick, PA
Docket: 50-387

Licensee Emergency Classification

Notification of Unusual Event
 Alert
 Site Area Emergency
 General Emergency
 Not Applicable

SUBJECT: **UPDATE** - SHUTDOWN EXPECTED TO BE GREATER THAN 72 HOURS TO REPAIR A LEAK FROM A CHEMICAL DECONTAMINATION PIPE ON THE '1A' REACTOR RECIRCULATION LOOP

The licensee for Susquehanna Unit 1 performed an unplanned shutdown on June 19 to conduct an inspection to identify the source of a leak into the drywell. The leakage had increased from 0.13 gallons per minute (gpm) to 1.62 gpm over a 4 day period.

Licensee personnel identified a leak in the weld for a 4-inch decontamination pipe connection on the '1A' reactor recirculation loop and determined that the cause of the leak was vibration induced fatigue of the weld. The vibration resulted from harmonic frequencies associated with reactor recirculation pump operation. Licensee personnel repaired the cracked weld and also shortened the length of the decontamination connection pipe on both recirculation pumps to remove the pipes' susceptibility to the recirculation pump harmonics. Additionally, the licensee conducted an extent of condition review and did not identify similar issues.

The NRC reviewed the licensee's evaluation of the cause of the cracked weld as well as corrective actions taken, and concluded the plant is safe for restart.

On June 29 licensee personnel performed a startup of Unit 1. The unit is currently in power ascension.

The information presented herein has been discussed with Susquehanna management and is current as of July 5, 2012, at 9:00 a.m.

The Commonwealth of Pennsylvania has been notified.

Region I Public Affairs is prepared to respond to media inquiries.

ADAMS Accession Number: **ML12188A065**

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