

August 29, 2005

PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION OF EVENT OR UNUSUAL OCCURRENCE -- PNO-IV-05-012

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 IV, Arlington, Texas, staff on this date.

Facility

ENTERGY OPERATIONS, INC.
Waterford-3
Killona, LA. 70066
Docket: 50-382 License No.NPF-38

Licensee Emergency Classification

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

SUBJECT: NOTICE OF UNUSUAL EVENT, PLANT SHUTDOWN, AND LOSS OF OFFSITE POWER AT WATERFORD-3

DESCRIPTION:

This Preliminary Notification is being issued to inform recipients of a Notice of Unusual Event (NOUE), plant shutdown, and loss of offsite power at the Waterford-3 facility. All three actions are related to Hurricane Katrina.

On August 27, 2005, at 10:24 p.m., (CDT), Waterford-3 operators declared a NOUE when St. Charles Parish was placed under a Hurricane Warning. In preparation, Waterford-3 operators commenced a shutdown of the facility to meet procedural requirements to shutdown the facility at least 12 hours prior to the projected arrival of a hurricane at 11:00 a.m. (CDT) on August 28, 2005. At 10:58 p.m. (CDT), Waterford-3 entered Mode 4 or "hot shutdown."

The NRC took steps to be prepared for actions in the event the hurricane impacted the Waterford-3 site and others that may be in the projected path on August 27, 2005. The NRC entered the Monitoring Mode and activated the Region IV Incident Response and Headquarters Operations Centers on August 28, 2005, at 4:00 p.m. (CDT). Two regional inspectors were sent to the Waterford-3 facility to provide continuous monitoring of activities on August 27, 2005. The NRC staffed a liaison position at the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Region VI Regional Operations Center in Denton, Texas.

At 7:56 a.m. (CDT), on August 29, 2005, the Waterford-3 facility experienced a complete loss of offsite power. Both emergency diesel generators automatically started and supplied power to the electrical safety busses. Key plant systems to maintain the reactor in a safe shutdown cooling mode are operable and being supplied power by the emergency diesel generators.

The information presented herein has been discussed with the licensee and is current as of 9:30 a.m. (CDT) on August 29, 2005. The states of Louisiana and Mississippi have been notified.

ADAMS ACCESSION NUMBER: ML 052410216

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