

PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION OF EVENT OR UNUSUAL OCCURRENCE - PNO-I-07-002

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 I staff on this date.

Facility	Licensee Emergency Classification
Exelon Generation Company	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notification of Unusual Event
Peach Bottom Atomic Power Station	<input type="checkbox"/> Alert
Unit 3	<input type="checkbox"/> Site Area Emergency
Delta, PA	<input type="checkbox"/> General Emergency
Docket: 50-278	<input type="checkbox"/> Not Applicable

Subject: NOTIFICATION OF UNUSUAL EVENT (NOUE) DECLARED DUE TO FIRE IN TURBINE BUILDING LOAD CENTER AT PEACH BOTTOM UNIT 3

On February 27, 2007, at 9:41 a.m., Exelon declared an Unusual Event at Peach Bottom Unit 3, due to a fire in the protected area not expected to be extinguished within 15 minutes of detection. At 9:38 a.m., operators determined that a fire existed in a non-safety related circuit breaker in a 480 volt (V) load center located in the turbine building. The fire was declared out at 10:32 a.m. after all power was removed from the load center and portable fire extinguishers were applied. The Unusual Event was terminated at 11:37 a.m. No safety related equipment was impacted by this fire. There were no personnel injuries reported due to the fire.

Removal of power from the 480V load center affected some non-safety related equipment, including isophase bus duct cooling. Isophase buses consist of metal bars that conduct the three phases of electrical current from the main generator to the step-up transformer. At higher power levels, duct cooling is needed to reduce the heat generated by the electrical current running through the bars. In response to the loss of the isophase bus duct cooling, plant operators reduced power to approximately 55% where duct cooling was not required.

Exelon requested offsite fire fighting assistance. Offsite fire trucks responded; however their assistance was not required to extinguish the fire and they did not enter the plant protected area. Significant media inquiries were received from local TV stations and media outlets.

The resident inspectors were onsite and responded to the main control room to monitor and evaluate plant safety performance. NRC Region I, in King of Prussia, PA, contacted the appropriate Pennsylvania and Maryland emergency management agencies, and the Region I Public Affairs Office responded to media inquiries.

The information presented herein has been discussed with Exelon and is current as of February 27, 2:00 p.m.

This preliminary notification is issued for information only and no further preliminary notification update by the staff is anticipated.

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