

PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION OF EVENT OR UNUSUAL OCCURRENCE - PNO-I-07-004

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

Entergy Nuclear Operations, Inc.
Indian Point Unit 3
Buchanan, NY

Docket: 50-286

Licensee Emergency Classification

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

Subject: NOTIFICATION OF UNUSUAL EVENT (NOUE) DECLARED DUE TO FIRE IN 'B' PHASE MAIN POWER TRANSFORMER AT INDIAN POINT UNIT 3

On April 6, 2007, at 11:43 a.m., Entergy declared an Unusual Event at Indian Point Unit 3 following a transformer failure and fire. The Unusual Event declaration was based on eyewitness reports from plant personnel that noted an explosion preceding the fire from the 'B' phase main power transformer at 11:09 a.m. The 'B' phase main power transformer is located in the transformer yard outside the turbine building and adjacent to the containment and primary auxiliary buildings. Deluge fire protection systems automatically actuated and the onsite fire brigade promptly responded with foam fire-fighting equipment. Entergy requested offsite fire fighting assistance through mutual aid agreements. Offsite fire trucks responded; however their assistance was not required to extinguish the fire and they did not enter the plant protected area. The fire was out in about eight minutes. The Unusual Event was terminated at 12:47 p.m. Safety related equipment and structures and offsite power sources were not impacted by this fire. There were no personnel injuries reported due to the fire.

The 'B' main power transformer failure resulted in an automatic reactor trip. The reactor trip was uncomplicated and the plant was stabilized with decay heat removal being provided through the main condenser. The NRC Indian Point resident inspectors were on site and promptly responded to the central control room and the transformer yard. The NRC staff is continuing to assess the licensee's response to this event and the level of inspection followup warranted. NRC Region I, in King of Prussia, PA, has contacted the appropriate New York state agencies, informed county and local officials, and coordinated with the NRC Office of Congressional Affairs to notify the New York congressional delegation. The NRC staff also conducted a briefing for federal, state, county and local government stakeholders. Significant media inquiries are being received by the Region I Public Affairs Office. Entergy also reported that media trucks have arrived at the site and helicopters believed to be media were sighted. Both NRC and Entergy have issued press releases.

The information presented herein has been discussed with Entergy and is current as of April 6, 2007 at 2:30 p.m.

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

Contacts:

E. Cobey
(610) 337-5171
ewc@nrc.gov

D. Orr
(610) 337-5048
jdo@nrc.gov

DISTRIBUTIONS:
BY EMAIL:

OWFN

Chairman Klein
Comm. Lyons
Comm. Jazcko
Comm. McGaffigan Jr.
Comm. Merrifield
OIG
OIP
OCA
OGC
OPA
EDO
OE
NRR
SECY
NMSS
OIG
RES
ACRS
FSME
NRO
NSIR
Regional Offices

BY FAX:
DOT: Trans
INPO
NSAC
RI Resident Office

ADAMS Accession Number: ML070960482

SUNSI Review Complete: EWC (Reviewer's Initials)

DOCUMENT NAME: C:\FileNet\ML070960482.wpd

After declaring this document "An Official Agency Record" it **will** be released to the Public.

To receive a copy of this document, indicate in the box: "C" = Copy without attachment/enclosure "E" = Copy with attachment/enclosure "N" = No copy

OFFICE	RI/DRP		RI/ORR		RI/DRP			
NAME	ECobey/EWC		RBarkley/RSB		JClifford/			
DATE	04/06/07		04/06/07		04/06/07			

OFFICIAL RECORD COPY