

April 11, 2007

PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION OF EVENT OR UNUSUAL OCCURRENCE -- PNO-IV-07-004A

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 staff on this date.

**Facility**

Energy Northwest  
Columbia Generating Station  
Docket: 50-397 License: NPF-21

**Licensee Emergency Classification**

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

SUBJECT: UPDATE TO FORCED OUTAGE RESULTING FROM A TECHNICAL SPECIFICATION  
REQUIRED PLANT SHUTDOWN

DESCRIPTION: This preliminary notification supplements information in PNO-IV-07-004, which documented the declaration of an alert and subsequent Technical Specification required shutdown stemming from a small electrical fire that occurred at the Columbia Generating Station on April 7, 2007. On April 8, 2007, the licensee commenced repair activities to replace the damaged transformer, which supplies backup power to safety related power panel 8AA. As part of these activities, the electrical ground for the transformer was lifted. This caused a loss of electrical ground for power panel 8AA rendering it inoperable and placed the plant in a condition that required a plant shut down. The licensee shut down the plant on April 9, 2007.

With the plant shut down, the licensee implemented a temporary modification to restore the electrical ground for power panel 8AA. Additional corrective actions taken include replacement of the damaged transformer, returning power panel 8AA to an operable status, establishing the failure mechanism that caused the fire, and evaluating the extent of condition for other similar electrical transformers.

On April 11, 2007, the NRC resident inspectors confirmed that the licensee restored the electrical grounding configuration to the original design during the transformer replacement activities. The temporary modification was also removed.

This information has been discussed with the licensee and is current as of 4:00 p.m. (CDT) on April 11, 2007.

ADAMS ACCESSION NUMBER: ML071010575

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