

October 22, 2007

PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION OF EVENT OR UNUSUAL OCCURRENCE PNO-II-07-009B

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 Region II staff (Atlanta, Georgia) on this date.

Facility

Southern Company
Joseph M. Farley Nuclear Plant Unit 1
Columbia, AL
Dockets/License: 50-348 & 50-364/NPF-2 & NPF-8

Licensee Emergency Classification

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

Subject: UPDATE - Extended Farley Augmented Inspection Team (AIT)

On October 22, the NRC extended an AIT inspection at the Farley Nuclear Plant due to the failure of a recently installed Cutler-Hammer breaker for the Unit 1 B Residual Heat Removal (RHR) pump. Unit 1 was in a defueled mode when the breaker failed and the 1B RHR pump was not required to support RHR system operability.

Region II, in consultation with NRR, decided to extend the AIT for this recent failure and other recent breaker issues identified during the continued replacement of the existing Allis-Chalmers breakers. A revised charter has been developed and personnel will be dispatched to the Farley site on October 22, 2007. The extended AIT will review the root cause(s) of the most recent failure and other replacement breaker installation issues to determine whether any represent a failure mode different from those identified during the original AIT. In addition, the AIT will review the extent of condition for this recent failure and other breaker conditions that may affect Unit 2.

This information is current as of October 22, 2007, at 5:00 p.m.

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