

November 26, 2007

PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION OF EVENT OR UNUSUAL OCCURRENCE -- PNO-IV-07-011

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

Arizona Public Service Company
Palo Verde Nuclear Generating Station
Wintersburg, AZ

Dockets: 50-528, 529, 530
Licenses: NPF-41, 51, 74

Licensee Emergency Classification

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

SUBJECT: PALO VERDE NUCLEAR GENERATING STATION (PVNGS) UNIT 1 TECHNICAL SPECIFICATION REQUIRED SHUTDOWN

On November 23, 2007 at approximately 10:26 pm MST, the licensee for PVNGS commenced a Technical Specification required shutdown of Unit 1 following the failure of a load sequencer. At 7:18 pm MST on November 22, 2007 the Unit 1 control room received unexpected alarms associated with the Train A Engineered Safety Features Actuation System (ESFAS) load sequencer. The function of the load sequencer is to remove electrical loads from the safety related electrical buses on a loss of offsite power condition and then start safety related components in sequential order with the emergency diesel generator supplying power. Troubleshooting efforts continued throughout the following day. The licensee identified a failed computer chip in the load sequencer. The sequencer was replaced with a spare unit, which subsequently failed in a similar manner when it was energized.

The licensee performed a plant shutdown as required by its Technical Specifications and entered hot standby conditions at 12:21 am MST, November 24, 2007. Unit 1 was subsequently cooled down to cold shutdown conditions on November 25, 2007. Additional troubleshooting revealed a failed diode in the sequencer input circuit that caused the problem. Repairs and testing were completed and preparations for a plant startup are in progress.

Plant conditions in all three units are stable. Unit 2 is at 100 percent power and stable, and Unit 3 is defueled for a refueling outage.

Region IV received notification of this condition on November 22, 2007. The resident inspectors are continuing to follow up on the licensee's repair efforts.

The state of Arizona has been informed. This information has been discussed with licensee management and is current as of 10:35 am, MST on November 26, 2007.

This preliminary notification is issued for information only.

ADAMS ACCESSION NUMBER: ML073300535

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