

PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION- REGION III

November 28, 2007

PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION OF EVENT OR UNUSUAL OCCURRENCE - PNO-III-07-015

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 III staff on this date.

Facility

Perry Nuclear Power Station
FirstEnergy Nuclear Operating Company
Perry, Ohio
Docket: 50-440
License: NPF-58

Licensee Emergency Classification

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

SUBJECT: SCRAM AT PERRY NUCLEAR POWER STATION AND FEEDWATER LOSS

DESCRIPTION:

On November 28, 2007, at 6:32 a.m. CST, FirstEnergy Nuclear Operating Company notified the NRC that the Perry Nuclear Power Station shut down due to an automatic scram.

The cause of the scram has not yet been confirmed. Coincident with the scram, the plant experienced a loss of both turbine-driven reactor feedwater pumps. The utility had not determined what caused the failure of the turbine-driven feedwater pumps.

Following the scram, the plant experienced problems with some of the equipment used to maintain proper water level in the reactor: the reactor core isolation cooling system and the motor-driven feedwater pump.

Proper water levels in the reactor have been maintained through the use of the high pressure core spray system and the reactor core isolation cooling system. The residual heat removal system has also been available, if needed.

The utility made no emergency declaration because the plant did not lose the ability to maintain a safe water level in the reactor.

The plant is in a stable shutdown condition.

The utility is looking into the causes of the scram, the initial problem with the turbine-driven feedwater pumps and subsequent problems with the reactor core isolation cooling system and the motor-driven feedwater pump.

Region III staff and management monitored the situation from its Incident Response Center. NRC resident inspectors were evaluating the situation onsite. A Special Inspection Team has been dispatched to further review plant response and equipment issues.

The NRC continues to evaluate the utility's response.

The State of Ohio has been notified.

The information in this preliminary notification is current as of 11:30 a.m. on November 28, 2007.

This information has been reviewed with plant management.

CONTACTS:

Bruce Burgess
630/829-9629

Mark Franke
440/259-3610