

Date: February 11, 2008

**PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION OF EVENT OR UNUSUAL OCCURRENCE – PNO-I-08-003**

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, King of Prussia, PA, staff on this date.

**Facility**

Exelon  
Limerick Generating Station, Unit 2  
Pottstown, PA  
Docket: 050-00353  
License: NPF-85

**License Emergency Classification**

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

**SUBJECT: SHUTDOWN EXCEEDING 72 HOURS**

**DESCRIPTION:**

On February 10, 2008, Limerick was shut down to repair the 2A recirculation pump seal. On February 9 at 6:12 p.m., unidentified leakage in the drywell increase from 0.01 to 1.2 gallons per minute (gpm). This coincided with intermittent seal leakage high flow alarms associated with the pump. Due to unidentified leakage increasing by more than 2.0 gpm over a 24-hour period, the plant entered a technical specification at 9:52 p.m. requiring the company to identify the source of the leakage within four hours. Unidentified leakage peaked at 2.7 gpm at 12:15 a.m. on February 10.

Operators began reducing power on Unit 2 early Sunday morning to enter single-loop operation on the 2B recirculation pump and allow securing of the 2A recirculation pump. The 2A recirculation pump was secured and isolated by 1:25 a.m. Sunday, and drywell unidentified leakage subsequently trended downward, indicating that the leak had been associated with the 2A recirculation pump. Once identifying the source of the leak, the company then elected to shut down the unit to repair the pump seal.

The NRC senior resident inspector responded to the site to monitor the licensee's response to the event and independently verified plant conditions. The Region I staff continues to follow licensee activities.

The Commonwealth of Pennsylvania has been informed. Region I Public Affairs is prepared to respond to media inquiries.

The information presented herein has been discussed with Exelon, and is current as of 1:30 pm, February 11, 2008. Region I plans to provide an update to this Preliminary Notification following plant restart.

ADAMS ACCESSION NUMBER: **ML080420618**

**CONTACTS:**

Paul G. Krohn  
610-337-5120  
[pgk1@nrc.gov](mailto:pgk1@nrc.gov)

**DISTRIBUTION:** (PN Recipient List)OWFN TWFN

Chairman Klein

Comm. Lyons

NMSS

Comm. Jazcko

ACRS

OIP

NSIR

OCA

OIG

OGC

EDO

OE

NRR

SECY

Regional Offices

**BY FAX:**

Dot: Trans

INPO

NSAC

RI Resident Office

Licensee: Exelon

Limerick Generating Station

**SUNSI Review Complete: PGK (Reviewer's Initials)****DOCUMENT NAME: G:\DRP\BRANCH4\PNO-I-08-003.doc**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/ORA	RI/ORA	RI/ORA	RI/DRP
NAME	PKrohn/PGK	RBarkley/RB	MMcLaughlin/MM	DScreenci/DS	DLew/DCL
DATE	02/ 11 /08	02/11 /08	02/ 11/08	02/ 11/08	02/ 11 /08

OFFICIAL RECORD COPY