

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
 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**

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