

February 9, 2009

PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION OF EVENT OR UNUSUAL OCCURRENCE -- PNO-IV-09-001

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

Entergy Operating, Inc.
Arkansas Nuclear One - Unit 1
Russellville, AR 72802
Docket No. 50-313
License No. DPR-51

Licensee Emergency Classification

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

SUBJECT: UNIT 1 TRIP AND FIRE ASSOCIATED WITH MAIN GENERATOR

DESCRIPTION:

On February 7, 2009, at 1059 CST, Arkansas Nuclear One Unit 1 declared a Notice of Unusual Event based on a fire onsite. The fire occurred on the 354 foot elevation iso-phase bus deck of the turbine building. The fire was attributed to a failed bonnet on a manual valve which had unthreaded during operation releasing hydrogen in the vicinity of the hydrogen add station. The licensee extinguished the fire using water and posted a re-flash watch. There were no reported personnel injuries. Offsite assistance was requested from the London Fire Department which arrived onsite after the fire had been extinguished.

Operators manually tripped the reactor prior to discovery of the fire, based upon notification of the hydrogen leak. The plant is currently stable with decay heat removal via the steam dumps to the main condenser. The licensee informed state/local agencies and the NRC Resident Inspector.

The Unusual Event was terminated at 1338 CST after confirmation that the fire was extinguished and a review of the exit criteria as defined in plant procedures. The licensee has informed state/local agencies.

The information presented herein has been discussed with the licensee and is current as of 1000 CST. No further action by the staff is anticipated.

ADAMS ACCESSION NUMBER: ML090400579

CONTACTS: Jeffrey Clark, 817-860-8147, jeff.clark@nrc.gov