

July 17, 2009

**PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION OF EVENT OR UNUSUAL OCCURRENCE** -- PNO-II-09-003

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 II staff on this date.

**Facility**

USEC- Portsmouth Gaseous Diffusion Plant  
Piketon, OH

Docket/License No. 70-7002/GDP - 2

**Licensee Emergency Classification**

Notification of Unusual Event

Alert

Site Area Emergency

General Emergency

Not Applicable

SUBJECT: ALERT DECLARED BASED ON FIRE LASTING LONGER THAN 15 MINUTES

On July 16, 2009, at 5:15 p.m., the Portsmouth Gaseous Diffusion Plant declared an alert, per its emergency plan, due to a fire in a deactivated cooling tower that lasted longer than 15 minutes. The certificate holder exited the alert at 8:40 p.m. after the fire was verified to be extinguished.

No radiological or hazardous materials were released and no injuries were reported as a result of the fire. The Department of Energy was the lead federal agency during the emergency, as the cooling tower had previously been turned over to them for decommissioning. The NRC was notified of the alert declaration and remained in the "normal" response mode.

The State of Ohio was informed. The information in this preliminary notification has been reviewed with licensee management.

This information is current as of 8:00 a.m., EDT on Friday, July 17, 2009.

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