

PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION OF EVENT OR UNUSUAL OCCURRENCE - PNO-II-11-002A

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 Region II staff (Atlanta, Georgia) on this date.

Facility:

Surry Virginia Electric and Power Co. Units 1 and 2
Power Station Units 1 and 2, Surry, VA

Docket Numbers: 50-280 and 50-281
License Numbers: DPR-32 and DPR-37

Licensee Emergency Classification:

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

SUBJECT: NOTIFICATION OF UNUSUAL EVENT DUE TO LOSS OF OFFSITE POWER

As previously reported, at 1948, on April 16, 2011, NRC entered the Monitoring Mode due to the Surry Power Station Units 1 and 2 declaring a Notification of Unusual Event at 1855. The emergency was declared due to a loss of all offsite alternating current (AC) power to the emergency busses for greater than 15 minutes which was initiated by a possible tornado onsite in the switchyard. Both units automatically tripped and all four of the plant's back-up diesel generators started to power emergency loads via the 1H/1J and 2H/2J buses. Plant systems operated as designed. The licensee reported that one Unit 2 pressurizer power operated relief valve opened several times to control high primary pressure. The valve reseated without any further challenges.

Inspection of the 500 kv switchyard revealed substantial damage to bus bars, transformers, and other components. The 230 kv switchyard had less significant damage including cracks on insulator supports.

On April 17, one independent source of offsite power was restored to the 1J and 2H emergency buses at 0012 and 0153, respectively. At 1804, offsite power was restored to emergency bus 1H and the #1 EDG was secured. Unit 1 was later placed in cold shutdown (<200 degrees) at 0203 on April 18.

Unit 2 was placed in cold shutdown (<200 degrees) at 1853 on April 17. Offsite power to emergency bus 2J was restored at 2107 on April 17 and the last running EDG #3 was later secured.

The licensee is maintaining strict control over switchyard repair activities. All EDGs remain available for use if needed.

The licensee is maintaining both plants in cold shutdown. The licensee intends on staying in the NOUE until key repairs can be made to bus 5 or 6 which would restore two independent sources of offsite power.

Region II received initial telephone notification of this occurrence from the licensee. NRC inspectors are onsite monitoring the activities. The information presented herein has been discussed with the licensee and is current as of 0445 on April 18, 2011.

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