

PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION - REGION III

October 28, 2011

PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION OF EVENT OR UNUSUAL OCCURRENCE - PNO-III-11-015A

This preliminary notification constitutes EARLY notice of events of POSSIBLE safety or public interest significance. Some of the information may not yet be fully verified or evaluated by the Region III staff.

Facility

Monticello Nuclear Generating Plant
Northern States Power Co.
Monticello, MN
Docket: 50-263
License: DPR-22

Licensee Emergency Classification

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

SUBJECT: UNPLANNED SHUTDOWN GREATER THAN 72 HOURS DUE TO A LOSS OF THE AUXILIARY POWER TRANSFORMER (UPDATE)

DESCRIPTION:

On October 28, 2011, at 5:32 a.m. Monticello restarted following a reactor scram occurring on October 21, 2011. The scram resulted from the unexpected loss of the auxiliary power transformer, which supplies offsite power to plant equipment. There were also several unexpected equipment interactions that occurred during the event. The normal cooling water supply to one of the emergency diesel generators did not work properly and one of the non-safety electrical buses failed to energize. These two conditions did not adversely impact the operation of any safety-related equipment and they were evaluated as part of the licensee's subsequent investigation. There was no effect to public health and safety from this event.

The NRC resident inspectors observed the reactor shutdown, the licensee repair and troubleshooting activities, and the subsequent restart. The resident inspectors have not identified any issues with the licensee's corrective actions.

This preliminary notification is issued for information only. State and local officials have been informed. The site issued a press release on October 21, 2011, describing the event.

The information presented herein has been discussed with the licensee, and is current as of 9:00 a.m. (CST), on October 28, 2011.

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