

Date: May 3, 2012

PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION OF EVENT OR UNUSUAL OCCURRENCE - PNO-I-12-001

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

<u>Facility</u>	<u>Licensee Emergency Classification</u>
PSEG	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notification of Unusual Event
Salem Generating Station	<input type="checkbox"/> Alert
Hancocks Bridge, NJ	<input type="checkbox"/> Site Area Emergency
Docket: 50-311	<input type="checkbox"/> General Emergency
	<input type="checkbox"/> Not Applicable

Subject: SALEM GENERATING STATION INADVERTENT SAFETY INJECTION AND NOTIFICATION OF UNUSUAL EVENT DUE TO FIRE ALARM IN CONTAINMENT

On April 30, 2012, at 10:03 a.m. the Salem Generating Station Unit 1 reactor automatically tripped following a safety injection (SI) signal. All systems responded as expected and operators stabilized plant conditions. Operators secured SI after concluding the signal was inadvertent. The pressurizer safety relief valves did not lift. At the time of the plant trip the licensee was testing the associated solid state protection system (SSPS).

At 10:18 a.m. operators declared a Notice of Unusual Event (NOUE) based on receiving multiple fire alarms for the reactor coolant pump area inside containment and not being able to determine the validity of the fire alarms within 15 minutes as required by Emergency Plan procedures. The NRC remained in the normal response mode based on stable plant conditions and normal containment parameters for temperature, making the presence of a fire unlikely. Operators terminated the NOUE at 12:49 p.m. after entering containment and determining there was no fire.

Operators determined that the inadvertent SI signal originated from the 'A' train of SSPS, declared the system inoperable and brought the reactor to cold shutdown (Mode 5) in accordance with the technical specifications. Plant personnel are working to determine and correct the causes of the inadvertent SI actuation.

The NRC Resident Inspectors were on site at the time of the event and responded to the Salem control room. NRC inspectors continue to monitor and independently assess the licensee actions to determine and correct the causes of the inadvertent SI actuation, fire alarms and activities associated with plant restart. The NRC Region I Public Affairs Office has responded to media inquiries.

The NRC notified the state of New Jersey and Delaware officials by telephone.

The NRC Region 1 will update this PN after plant restart.

Region I received initial notification of this occurrence by telephone call from the NRC Headquarters Operations Officer at 10:45 a.m. The information presented herein was discussed with PSEG and is current as of May 3 at 2:00 p.m.

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Contacts: Arthur Burritt
(610) 337-5069
Arthur.burritt@nrc.gov

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