

PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION

January 4, 2013

PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION OF EVENT OR UNUSUAL OCCURRENCE - PNO-III-12-016A

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 and is basically all that is known by the Region III staff on this date.

Facility

Fermi Nuclear Power Plant, Unit 2
Detroit Edison Company
Monroe, MI
Docket: 50-341

Licensee Emergency Classification

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

Subject: UPDATE - UNPLANNED SHUTDOWN GREATER THAN 72 HOURS DUE TO HYDROGEN IN-LEAKAGE TO THE STATOR WATER COOLING SYSTEM

On Monday December 31, 2012, at 3:27 a.m. EST, the Fermi operators restarted the reactor following repairs to the main turbine generator stator water cooling system. The unit synchronized to the grid at 2:57 p.m. EST on January 1, 2013. The NRC resident inspectors closely monitored the licensee's activities, including plant startup.

Previously, on November 7, 2012, at 9:21 a.m. EST, while operating at 68% power, operators of the Unit 2 reactor at the Fermi Nuclear Power Plant manually scrammed the reactor in response to an increase of hydrogen gas in-leakage to the stator water cooling system from the main turbine generator. The stator water cooling system's function is to cool portions of the main generator. All control rods, except one, fully inserted and all plant systems responded normally to the scram. One control rod had to be manually inserted one notch by the operators. A second control rod, although fully inserted, was slow to insert. On November 7, 2012, at 10:23 p.m. EST, the licensee entered cold shutdown (Mode 4).

The NRC resident inspectors were onsite at the time and responded to the notification of the scram. The NRC resident inspectors continued to follow the hydrogen in-leakage and control rod issues closely.

This preliminary notification is issued for information only.

The State of Michigan has been informed.

Region III received initial notification of this occurrence by a telephone call from the resident inspector's office (RIO) at approximately 9:30 a.m. EST on November 7, 2012 (refer to Event Notification No. 48487).

The information herein has been discussed with the licensee, and is current as of 11:52 p.m. EST on January 3, 2013.

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