

PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION

March 24, 2015

**PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION OF EVENT OR UNUSUAL OCCURRENCE—PNO-III-15-005**

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 Power Plant, Unit 2  
DTE Energy Company  
Newport, MI  
Docket: 50-341

**Licensee Emergency Classification**

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

SUBJECT: UNPLANNED SHUTDOWN GREATER THAN 72 HOURS FOLLOWING A COOLING WATER LEAK IN CONTAINMENT

On March 19, 2015, at 6:47 am EDT, while the plant was operating at 100 percent power, operators received alarms in the control room indicating a leak of cooling water from one of two large pumps (reactor recirculation pumps) in the drywell. The operators shut off the pump and reactor power began to reduce, as expected. At 7:02 am EDT reactor power was around 74 percent when a reactor safety instrument caused an automatic reactor scram. All control rods inserted and all plant systems responded normally to the scram. The NRC resident inspector went to the control room upon being notified of the leak and observed operators respond to the scram.

The results of the initial investigation identified a crack in the flow meter for the pump's cooling water and a faulty gasket on a drywell cooling unit as the source of the leakage. The leak, which was limited to the drywell, was from support cooling water systems, not the reactor water system. The licensee is in the process of repairing and testing these components. The licensee's investigation of what caused the safety instrument to initiate the scram is ongoing. The NRC resident inspector followed the licensee's repair and investigation activities through the weekend.

This preliminary notification is issued for information only.

Region III received initial notification of this occurrence by a telephone call from the resident inspector's office shortly after the scram and from the licensee via Event Notification No. 50903.

The information presented herein has been discussed with the licensee and is current as of March 24, 2015, at 1:30 p.m. EDT.

ADAMS Accession Number: ML15083A477

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