

May 18, 2000

PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION OF EVENT OR UNUSUAL OCCURRENCE PNO-III-00-019

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 III staff (Lisle, Illinois) on this date.

Facility	Licensee Emergency Classification
Illinois Power Co.	Notification of Unusual Event
Clinton 1	Alert
Clinton, Illinois	Site Area Emergency
Dockets: 50-461	General Emergency
	X Not Applicable

Subject: MANUAL REACTOR SCRAM OF CLINTON POWER STATION

On May 17, 2000, at 10:14 a.m. (CDT), the Clinton Power Station was manually shut down in anticipation of an automatic reactor SCRAM due to decreasing reactor vessel water level. A functional test was being conducted on a protective relay that was associated with a circuit breaker which provides power to a non-safety-related electrical bus. The protective relay was not correctly isolated due to a labeling error and the electrical bus was de-energized during the functional test. As a result, two condensate system pumps tripped. This resulted in a loss of suction pressure to the two operating main reactor feedwater pumps which also tripped. Due to the loss of feedwater, reactor vessel water level began to decrease. In response to the decreasing reactor vessel water level, plant operators inserted a manual SCRAM signal and all control rods inserted as designed. Plant operators manually initiated the reactor core isolation cooling system to maintain reactor vessel water level subsequent to the SCRAM. Both the operating and backup plant service air compressors were also de-energized with the loss of the electrical bus. Due to the loss of service air, the main steam isolation valves (MSIVs) slowly drifted to the closed position thus isolating the reactor from its normal heat sink (condenser). Once the MSIVs were closed, reactor operators commenced a controlled cooldown using the main steam safety relief valves until the condenser was restored at approximately 10:30 p.m. The plant is currently in cold shutdown. The resident inspectors were onsite and responded to the event.

The licensee issued a news release regarding this event. The State of Illinois was informed of the event. The information in this preliminary notification has been reviewed with licensee management.

The licensee notified the NRC Operations Center of this event at 11:56

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a.m. (CDT) on May 17, 2000. This information is current as of 2:00 p.m.
on May 18, 2000.

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