

PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION OF EVENT OR UNUSUAL OCCURRENCE PNO-I-00-35

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 the Region I staff on this date.

Facility

North Atlantic Energy Service Corporation
Seabrook
Route 1
Seabrook, New Hampshire 03874

Licensee Emergency Classification

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

Docket No.: 050-443

License No.: NPF-86

SUBJECT: SEABROOK STATION "B" EMERGENCY DIESEL GENERATOR DAMAGE DURING TESTING - SPECIAL INSPECTION TEAM

Seabrook Station is currently in a refueling outage with all fuel removed from the reactor vessel.

Between October 29 and November 1, 2000, the licensee attempted to perform a 24-hour endurance surveillance test on the "B" Emergency Diesel Generator (EDG). The attempts on October 29 and 30, 2000, resulted in operators securing the EDG based on high differential pressure across the lubricating oil filter. The attempt on November 1 encountered "crankcase high pressure" and "EDG high vibration" alarms and required emergency EDG shutdown. In addition, the operators in the EDG room noted a flash from the turbo-charger area and heavy black smoke. Subsequent preliminary assessment by the licensee has revealed damage to at least one of the EDG cylinder liners.

The licensee formed an Event Team on October 31, 2000, to assess the problems with the lubricating oil system, and expanded the scope of that team on November 1, 2000, based on the last test failure.

Region I received initial notification of the third test failure resulting in damage to the EDG by telephone on November 1 from the senior resident inspector. On November 2, Region I, in consultation with NRR, decided to send a Special Inspection Team to the site to monitor and assess the licensee's root cause evaluation and corrective actions, independently evaluate the risk significance of the EDG test failures, and determine possible generic implications. The resident inspector is a member of that team and will monitor licensee actions until the team is dispatched.

The State of New Hampshire has been notified of this event and the NRC's decision to conduct the special inspection.

Region I Public Affairs is issuing a press release to announce the special inspection and is prepared to respond to media inquiries.

The information presented herein has been discussed with the licensee, and is current as of November 3, 2000.

Contact: Robert Summers
(610) 337-5282

James Linville
(610) 337-5129

DISTRIBUTIONS:

BY E-MAIL:

<u>OWFN</u>	<u>TWFN</u>	<u>LST</u>
Chairman Meserve	IRO	PDR
Comm. Diaz	ACRS	
Comm. McGaffigan Jr.	NMSS	
Comm. Merrifield	OIG	
Comm. Dicus	RES	
OIP		
OCA		
OGC		
EDO		
OE		
NRR		
SECY		
Regional Offices		

BY FAX:

DOT:Trans
 INPO
 NSAC
 RI Resident Office
 Licensee: North Atlantic Energy Service Corp.

DOCUMENT NAME: S:\PN\PN1000

OFFICE	RI/DRP	RI/ORA	RI/ORA	RI/DRP	RI/
NAME	JLinville	RBores	DScrenci	ABlough	
DATE	11/ /00	11/ /00	11/ /00	11/ /00	