

August 2, 2001

**PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION OF EVENT OR UNUSUAL OCCURRENCE - PNO-III-01-025**

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 III staff on this date.

**Facility**

Quad Cities 2  
Exelon Nuclear Generating Co.  
Cordova IL  
Docket No. 50-265

**Licensee Emergency Classification**

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

SUBJECT: REACTOR SCRAM AFTER MAIN TRANSFORMER DAMAGED BY LIGHTNING

DESCRIPTION:

At 8:20 a.m. CDT on August 2, 2001, lightning struck in the electrical switchyard, damaging the Unit 2 main transformer. The reactor subsequently shut down automatically. The power transient, associated with the transformer failure, caused a loss of off-site power to the unit. Both the Unit 2 emergency diesel generator and the Units 1-2 swing emergency diesel generator started and began to supply power to plant safety systems. All equipment functioned normally during the reactor scram and transfer of power to the diesel generators.

The local fire department responded to the site to assist with extinguishing a fire in the main transformer following the lightning strike.

The licensee declared an Unusual Event under its emergency plan at 8:23 a.m.

The plant staff is working to restore power to the plant through the reserve auxiliary transformer, which was not damaged in the lightning strike.

Reactor cooling is being maintained using the Reactor Core Isolation Cooling and Safe Shutdown Makeup systems and the Safety Relief Valves. There was no release of radioactivity associated with this event.

The resident inspectors are at the plant monitoring the licensee's response to the event. Region III (Chicago) staffed its Incident Response Center and entered the monitoring phase of the normal mode at 9:03 a.m. to follow plant activities.

The States of Illinois and Iowa have been notified. The information in this preliminary notification has been reviewed with licensee management.

The licensee plans to issue a news release. There is local news media interest. Hot weather conditions in northern Illinois have caused high electrical demand, but Commonwealth Edison, the area utility, reports adequate reserves.

Region III was notified of this event at 8:25 a.m. by the resident inspectors. This information is current as of 10 a.m. on August 2, 2001.

CONTACTS:

Mark Ring  
(630) 829-9703

Chris Miller  
(309) 654-2227