

PRIORITY ATTENTION REQUIRED MORNING REPORT - REGION IV DECEMBER 21, 2001

Licensee/Facility:

Omaha Public Power District
Ft Calhoun 1
Fort Calhoun, Nebraska
Dockets: 50-285
PWR/CE

Notification:

MR Number: **4-01-0007**
Date: 12/21/01
Call from SRI

Subject: FIRE AT FORT CALHOUN STATION

Reportable Event Number: N/A

Discussion:

On December 19, 2001, a fire occurred in a corridor from Safety Injection Pump Room 22 to the containment tendon gallery. The fire was caused by a malfunction of an extension cord and subsequent ignition of a bag of trash, most likely used cloth overalls. The resulting fire also burned a herculite floor covering and a rubber air hose. The extension cord was being used to supply power to a heater for 55-gallon grease drums located in the tendon gallery. The grease was being used for work on the containment tendons. The licensee's fire brigade was dispatched and extinguished the fire approximately 20 minutes after the fire alarm was received at 2:48 a.m. (CST). The licensee determined that the fire did not meet the criteria in their emergency plan implementing procedures for the declaration of an emergency. Although assistance was requested from the Blair City Fire Department, the fire was out by the time they arrived at the site.

As a result of the heavy smoke, fire protection system sprinklers initiated in a stairwell outside of Room 22. Intermittent grounds were experienced on two safety-related 480 volt ac motor control centers as a result of the actuation of the sprinkler system.

Room 22 contains a low pressure safety injection pump, a high pressure safety injection pump, two containment spray pumps, and other safety related valves and cable trays. The licensee conducted an inspection of Safety Injection Pump Room 22 and determined that no equipment was damaged as a result of the fire, water, or smoke. The licensee also inspected the motor control centers that experienced intermittent grounds and did not identify any damage.

The licensee is continuing their investigation into the cause of the fire.

Regional Action:

The resident inspectors conducted an initial inspection of Room 22 and the area of the fire. Region IV plans to conduct a special inspection the week of January 13, 2002, to further review this event.

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