June 12, 2002

PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION OF EVENT OR UNUSUAL OCCURRENCE -- PNO-III-02-025

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	**Licensee Emergency Classification**
D. C. Cook Nuclear Power Plant, Units 1 and 2	___ Notification of Unusual Event
American Electric Power Company	_X_ Alert
Bridgman, MI 49106	___ Site Area Emergency
Docket: 50-315; 50-316	___ General Emergency
License: DPR-58; DPR-74	___ Not Applicable

SUBJECT: ALERT -- FIRE IN D.C. COOK UNIT 1 SWITCHYARD

DESCRIPTION:

On June 12, 2002, D. C. Cook Unit 1 was operating at about 68 percent power. The licensee was increasing power as a result of completing a routine refueling outage. Unit 2 was at 100 percent power and stable.

At about 1:45 p.m. (EDT), the Unit 1 345 kV switchyard breaker (L breaker) opened due to a fault. A catastrophic failure of the breaker and subsequent fire resulted in two additional breaker failures and a minor personnel injury. The licensee opened other breakers to isolate the fault. The fire was allowed to extinguish itself.

The breaker fault resulted in a loss of all offsite power for both units. The units' electrical loads are currently being provided by the their respective unit auxiliary transformers. Both units remain at their initial power levels. The emergency diesel generators were not required to be started and remain in standby.

At 2:05 p.m. (EDT), the licensee declared an ALERT, based on emergency action level H-4, "ALERT - Fire or Explosion Affecting Operability of Safety Equipment." The licensee activated its onsite and offsite emergency response facilities.

NRC personnel were notified immediately of the situation. At 2:47 p.m. (EDT), the NRC Region III (Lisle, IL) and Headquarter Offices entered the Monitoring Phase for the ALERT. State, local, and other federal agencies have been notified.

Region III received initial notification of this occurrence by telephone at from the NRC Resident Inspector at about 2:00 p.m. (EDT) on June 12, 2002. The information presented herein has been discussed with the licensee, and is current as of 5:25 p.m. (EDT) on June 12, 2002.

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