

June 13, 2002

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

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

D. C. Cook Nuclear Power Plant, Units 1 and 2
American Electric Power Company
Bridgman, MI 49106
Docket: 50-315; 50-316
License: DPR-58; DPR-74

Licensee Emergency Classification

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

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

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 of its current transformer. A catastrophic failure of the current transformer and subsequent fire resulted in the automatic opening of several additional switchyard breakers and in a minor personnel injury. The licensee manually opened other breakers to isolate the fault. The fire was allowed to extinguish itself.

The switchyard disturbance resulted in a loss of offsite power for both units. The units' electrical loads were maintained energized by their respective unit auxiliary transformers. Both units remained at their initial power levels. The emergency diesel generators were not required to be started and remained 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.

The NRC Headquarters Operations Officer was notified of the situation at 2:17 p.m. (EDT). 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 were also notified.

As a result of the loss of the preferred reserve offsite power source for both units and in conjunction with an inoperable Unit 2 service water pump, which was undergoing planned maintenance, the licensee entered a Limiting Condition of Operation of its Technical Specifications. The licensee's Technical Specifications required the restoration of the service water pump or the shutdown of both units by 9:45 p.m. (EDT) on June 12, 2002.

The licensee requested, and at 9:15 p.m. (EDT), the NRC granted the licensee a Notice of Enforcement Discretion (NOED) to allow the licensee to maintain operation of both units for an additional 10 hours while the licensee worked to restore the service water pump.

At about 10:00 p.m. (EDT), the licensee restored the service water pump to operable status. At 11:47 p.m. (EDT), the licensee restored the preferred reserve offsite power source for both units, which satisfied the licensee's Technical Specifications requirements. The licensee subsequently terminated the ALERT classification at 11:54 p.m. (EDT) and exited its Emergency Plan.

At 11:55 p.m. (EDT) the NRC exited the Monitoring Phase of Normal Mode.

As of about 10:00 a.m. on June 13, 2002, the licensee had restored four of six normal offsite power sources to the Unit 1 345-kV switchyard and was evaluating cause of the incident.

On June 13, 2002, the NRC Region III Office dispatched an inspector to the site to review the event with onsite inspectors. The State of Michigan will be informed of this updated information. The information presented herein has been discussed with the licensee and is current as of 3:00 p.m. (EDT) on June 13, 2002.

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