

September 23, 2002

PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION OF EVENT OR UNUSUAL OCCURRENCE -- PNO-III-02-039

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

Perry

First Energy

Perry, Ohio

Docket:

License: 50-440/NPF-58

Licensee Emergency Classification

☐ Notification of Unusual Event

☐ Alert

☐ Site Area Emergency

☐ General Emergency

☒ Not Applicable

SUBJECT: REACTOR SCRAM DURING MAIN TURBINE TESTING LEADS TO SHUTDOWN GREATER THAN 72 HOURS

DESCRIPTION:

At 1:46 a.m. EDT on September 22, 2002, during a routine weekly test of turbine overspeed protection trip devices, the reactor at Perry experienced an automatic scram.

During the test, the overspeed protection trip devices are "locked out" from the turbine in order to prevent the turbine from tripping off line. However, in this case, the lockout device failed and a trip signal was sent to the turbine. The turbine tripped and caused a reactor scram. On receipt of the scram signal all control rods inserted and the reactor shut down. All safety systems performed as designed. The licensee is investigating the failure of the lockout device.

The licensee has decided to take the reactor to cold shut down to replace a reactor recirculation pump seal, to repair an emergency diesel generator that was out of service for an unrelated issue and to perform other maintenance activities. The outage is expected to last more than 72 hours.

The resident inspectors are monitoring the licensee's investigation, maintenance and repair activities.

The state of Ohio will be informed. The information in this preliminary notification has been reviewed with licensee management.

The Licensee notified the NRC Operations Center of this event at 3:19 a.m. EDT on September 22, 2002. This information is current as of 4 p.m. on September 23, 2002.

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