

December 17, 2002

PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION OF EVENT OR UNUSUAL OCCURRENCE -- PNO-IV-02-077

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 IV staff on this date.

**Facility**

Union Electric Company  
Callaway Plant Unit 1  
Docket: 50-483  
License: NPF-30

**Licensee Emergency Classification**

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

SUBJECT: AUTOMATIC REACTOR TRIP WHILE REDUCING POWER DUE TO A CONDENSATE PUMP FAILURE

DESCRIPTION: On December 14, 2002, at 4:20 a.m. (CST), a reactor trip occurred during a reactor downpower. The trip was initiated by the departure from nucleate boiling protection calculation (overtemperature delta temperature (OTDT)). The licensee was reducing power in response to a condensate pump lube oil system failure. The cause of the trip was a conservative correction factor for the neutron flux axial offset input to the OTDT setpoint calculation. The auxiliary feedwater actuation system and feedwater isolation system received valid initiation signals due to the expected low steam generator water levels following the reactor trip. All systems responded as required.

Following the trip, the control room operators restored steam generator water levels using the auxiliary feedwater system. The operators secured the turbine-driven auxiliary feedwater pump and continued to supply water to the steam generators using the motor-driven auxiliary feedwater pumps. The control room operators inadvertently allowed steam generator water levels to reach the low water level setpoint which generated another auxiliary feedwater actuation signal. However, the turbine-driven auxiliary feedwater pump tripped on overspeed during the pump start. The licensee is investigating the turbine-driven auxiliary feedwater pump problem and plans to restart the reactor after the pump is repaired and successfully tested.

A Notice of Enforcement Discretion was issued to the licensee on December 16, 2002, to allow up to 48 hours to complete testing of the turbine-driven auxiliary feedwater pump in Mode 3 following repair. The reactor is in Mode 3 with the motor-driven startup feedwater pump supplying feedwater to the steam generators.

Region IV received notification of the trip by telephone from the resident inspectors on December 14, 2002. The inspectors promptly responded to the site to monitor the licensee's actions in response to this event. Region IV has informed the EDO, NRR, and PA. The state of Missouri has been informed.

This information has been discussed with the licensee and is current as of 9:50 a.m. (CST) on December 17, 2002.

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