

**PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION OF EVENT OR UNUSUAL OCCURRENCE** PNO-II-03-16

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 Region II staff (Atlanta, Georgia) on this date.

<b><u>Facility</u></b>		<b><u>Licensee Emergency Classification</u></b>
Tennessee Valley Authority		Notification of Unusual Event
Sequoyah Nuclear Plant	X	Alert
Soddy Daisy, Tennessee		Site Area Emergency
Dockets/License: 50-327, DPR-77		General Emergency
		Not Applicable

Subject: Alert Declared at Sequoyah Nuclear Plant

At about 4:03 p.m. (EDT), Sequoyah Unit 1 experienced a turbine trip during routine turbine testing. The main control room operators noted that the reactor did not immediately automatically trip as required, and they promptly initiated a manual reactor trip. All control rods inserted and the reactor was shutdown. All safety systems performed as expected after the manual trip.

An Alert was declared by the licensee at 4:18 p.m. based on the apparent reactor protection system problem. At 4:23 p.m. the reactor was verified to be stable and in hot shutdown. The NRC resident inspector was onsite and responded to the control room.

At 5:07 p.m., the licensee had activated their onsite emergency response facilities.

NRC Region II received initial notification of this occurrence from the NRC Senior Resident Inspector and immediately manned their emergency response center. The State of Tennessee has been informed of the event.

At 5:35 p.m. the NRC Region II entered the Monitoring Mode and continues to monitor the situation from the Region II Incident Response Center.

The licensee is investigating why the reactor protection system did not trip the reactor automatically when the turbine tripped.

This information presented is current as of 6:15 p.m.

CONTACT: L. Wert  
404-562-4501