November 24, 2004

PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION OF EVENT OR UNUSUAL OCCURRENCE PNO-II-04-011

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.

Facility		**Licensee Emergency Classification**
Paducah Gaseous Diffusion Plant		Notification of Unusual Event
		Alert
Paducah, KY		Site Area Emergency
Dockets/License: GDP-1		General Emergency
	X	Not Applicable

Subject: FIRE IN PRODUCT WITHDRAWAL BUILDING

On November 23, 2004, at about 1:15 p.m. CST, operators were racking in a breaker in Building C-310, Product Withdrawal Building, when an apparent fault occurred and a fire resulted. The fire was extinguished at approximately 1:37 p.m. by site fire department personnel. No injuries to the operators or release of radioactive material occurred.

However, power to most of the equipment in the building was lost, including product withdrawal and the process gas leak detection and criticality accident alarm systems. Plant staff declared those systems inoperable and have implemented the applicable Technical Safety Requirement action statements, which specify acceptable compensatory measures to provide an equivalent level of safety.

Plant management initiated actions to maintain the cascade in a stable condition and to restore power to the affected equipment. Actions to partially restore power are expected to be completed by early afternoon today. The resident staff responded to the event and continue to monitor recovery actions.

The State of Kentucky was notified verbally by Region II staff, and some media inquires have been made.

Region II received initial notification of this occurrence from the Senior Resident Inspector at the site. This information presented herein has been discussed with the licensee and is current as of 12:00 noon on November 24, 2004.

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