August 24, 2005

PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION OF EVENT OR UNUSUAL OCCURRENCE -- PNO-IV-05-011

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 the Region IV, Arlington, Texas, staff on this date.

Facility
Palo Verde Nuclear Generating Station, Unit 2
Buckeye, Arizona
Docket: 50-529
License: NPF-51

Licensee Emergency Classification
___ Notification of Unusual Event
___ Alert
___ Site Area Emergency
___ General Emergency
_X_ Not Applicable

SUBJECT: SHUTDOWN TO REPAIR CORE PROTECTION CALCULATORS (CPCs)

This Preliminary Notification is being issued to inform recipients of an unplanned shutdown of PVNGS Unit 2, because of a problem with the CPCs. On August 22, 2005, PVNGS Unit 2 was shut down to update the software associated with the CPCs following notification by the CPC vendor that certain sensor failures or analog input module failures would not result in a corresponding trip of the CPC Channel. The failure of any one CPC channel would not preclude the remaining three CPC channels from tripping on a valid actuation signal. However, the licensee initiated a Technical Specification required shutdown of the unit because all four CPC Channels were affected. New CPCs were installed in Unit 2 in November 2003. The CPCs of Units 1 and 3 are not affected. As of August 24, the licensee was working with the vendor to develop and install a CPC software update.

The Resident Inspectors are monitoring the licensee's software installation and testing efforts for the CPCs.

Region IV received notification of this occurrence by telephone from the licensee at 3:00 p.m. (CDT) on August 22. The information presented herein has been discussed with the licensee and is current as of 10:30 a.m. (CDT) on August 24. The state of Arizona has been notified by telephone.

This preliminary notification is issued for information only and no further action by the staff is anticipated.

ADAMS ACCESSION NUMBER: ML052360520

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