

PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION OF EVENT OR UNUSUAL OCCURRENCE-PNO-I-05-026A

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 I staff on this date.

Facility

PSEG Nuclear, LLC
Hope Creek
Hancocks Bridge, New Jersey

Licensee Emergency Classification

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

Docket No. 05000354

License No. NPF-57

SUBJECT: SUPPLEMENT - SHUTDOWN EXPECTED TO BE GREATER THAN 72 HOURS TO REPAIR AN INOPERABLE DRYWELL TO SUPPRESSION CHAMBER VACUUM BREAKER

The NRC has completed its initial review of the causes and corrective actions for an open drywell to suppression chamber vacuum breaker at Hope Creek Nuclear Generating Station and has concluded that the plant is safe for restart.

Following the plant shutdown, PSEG entered the suppression chamber and inspected all drywell to suppression chamber vacuum breakers. PSEG identified a misalignment on the 'B' vacuum breaker magnetic closure assembly due to a loose locknut. PSEG also noted a similar condition on the 'C' vacuum breaker; however, the 'C' vacuum breaker had remained closed. PSEG performed an analysis to determine the direct cause of this degraded condition and has implemented immediate corrective actions. In addition, PSEG has begun a root cause investigation of this condition.

The NRC review was completed by the resident inspectors, who performed independent inspections of the conditions noted and monitored PSEG's investigation and repair efforts. The results of the NRC inspection activities will be documented in the routine resident inspector reports.

The information presented herein has been discussed with PSEG and is current as of 9:00 a.m. on September 1, 2005.

Region I Public Affairs is prepared to respond to media inquiries. The States of New Jersey and Delaware have been informed.

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