

PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION OF EVENT OR UNUSUAL OCCURRENCE -- PNO-I-07-001A

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

Entergy Nuclear Operations, Inc.
Indian Point Unit 3
Buchanan, NY
Docket: 50-286

Licensee Emergency Classification

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

SUBJECT: **UPDATE** - NOTIFICATION OF UNUSUAL EVENT (NOUE) DECLARED DUE TO LOW WATER LEVEL IN INDIAN POINT UNIT 3 SERVICE WATER INTAKE BAY

On February 5, 2007, Entergy declared a Notification of Unusual Event (NOUE) at Indian Point Unit 3 due to an indicated service water intake bay water level which lowered to less than 4' 5" below mean sea level (MSL). The NOUE was entered at 7:07 a.m., and subsequently exited at 10:14 a.m., when the intake water level recovered. The cause of the water level change appeared to be a combination of environmental conditions and debris impinging against the Indian Point Unit 3 trash racks at the cooling water intake.

Entergy took action to more frequently and accurately monitor intake bay level and remove debris from the intake trash racks. Divers have removed debris from the intake trash racks, such that there is currently no indication of debris blockage. The debris that was removed consisted of tree branches, leaves, and some trash. In addition, the magnitude of tidal level changes has moderated over the last several days. As a result of the licensee's actions and subsequent environmental conditions, service water intake bay levels have returned to normal.

The NRC staff continues to closely follow the licensee's corrective actions and causal evaluations, including review of the appropriateness of the licensee's intake water level monitoring and intake structure maintenance practices. These activities will be conducted through the NRC's independent baseline inspections.

The information presented herein has been discussed with the licensee, and is current as of 11:00 a.m., February 8, 2007. This Preliminary Notification is issued for information only and no further notification by the staff is anticipated.

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