PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION- REGION III

July 31, 2009

PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION OF EVENT OR UNUSUAL OCCURRENCE -- PNO-III-09-007

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 III staff on this date.

Facility	**Licensee Emergency Classification**
Braidwood Nuclear Station	_X_ Notification of Unusual Event
Exelon Generation Co., LLC	___ Alert
Braceville, IL	___ Site Area Emergency
Docket: 50-457	___ General Emergency
License: NPF-77	__ Not Applicable

SUBJECT: UNUSUAL EVENT AT BRAIDWOOD UNIT 2 DUE TO LOSS OF OFFSITE POWER UNIT WILL REMIAIN SHUT DOWN FOR MORE THAN 72 HOURS

DESCRIPTION:

On July 30, at 8:59 p.m. CDT, Braidwood Unit 2 automatically tripped as a result of an electrical disturbance.

Following the reactor trip, both auxiliary transformers, which supply offsite power to Unit 2 safety-related equipment, tripped off-line. The emergency diesel generators started supplying safety-related equipment with power.

The transient also resulted in a loss of power to the non-safety related buses. This caused the condenser to become unavailable for cooling the steam generators. Instead, safety-related equipment, such as the auxiliary feedwater system, was used for cooling. As a result, steam was released to the environment where it quickly dissipated. There is no health impact to the public from the steam release.

All safety-related systems functioned as required. The utility declared an Unusual Event (UE) because offsite power was unavailable for more than 15 minutes in accordance with plant procedures.

Unit 2 is currently shutdown. The site remains in an Unusual Event until offsite power is restored.

Unit 1 continues to operate at full power.

Both units are in a stable condition.

The licensee is trying to determine the root cause of the event.

The NRC Resident Inspectors are closely monitoring the licensee's response to the incident.

State and Local officials have been informed.

The information presented in this Preliminary Notification has been discussed with licensee management and is current as of July 31, 2009, at 1:30 p.m.

NRC Region III will update this Preliminary Notification after plant restart.

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