

January 21, 2010

PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION OF EVENT OR UNUSUAL OCCURRENCE -- PNO-III-10-002

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.

<u>Facility</u>	<u>Licensee Emergency Classification</u>
Prairie Island Units 1 and 2	<input type="checkbox"/> Notification of Unusual Event
Northern States Power-Minnesota	<input type="checkbox"/> Alert
Welch, Minnesota	<input type="checkbox"/> Site Area Emergency
Docket: 50-282; 50-306	<input type="checkbox"/> General Emergency
License: DPR-42; DPR-60	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Not Applicable

SUBJECT: FIRE IN A NONSAFETY-RELATED DIESEL GENERATOR

DESCRIPTION:

On January 20, 2010, at approximately 1:17 p.m. a fire started on a nonsafety-related diesel generator during testing at the Prairie Island Nuclear Generating Plant. The diesel was housed in a building with no safety-related equipment. The utility's fire brigade responded and the fire was extinguished at 1:37 p.m. The Red Wing Fire Department was also called to the scene but the fire was extinguished before they arrived. At 2:13 p.m. the fire re-flashed. The re-flash fire was extinguished by the fire brigade and the Red Wing Fire Department. There were no injuries reported. The fire posed no danger to plant workers or the public and had no impact on plant safety. The cause of the fire is still under investigation. Both units are operating at full power.

This nonsafety-related diesel generator provides backup power to the ventilation system for the Technical Support Center and a Unit 1 computer.

The NRC and the resident inspectors at the plant have been monitoring the incident and the utility's actions.

The State of Minnesota has been informed.

The event was reported to the NRC at 4:10 p.m. CST on January 20, 2010. The information in this preliminary notification has been reviewed with licensee management and is current as of 11:00 a.m. CST on January 21, 2010.

ADAMS Accession Number ML100211168

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