

PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION - REGION III

October 19, 2011

PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION OF EVENT OR UNUSUAL OCCURRENCE - PNO-III-11-012A

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

Perry Nuclear Power Plant
FirstEnergy Nuclear Operating Company
Perry, Ohio
Docket: 50-440
License: NPF-58

Licensee Emergency Classification

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

SUBJECT: PERRY UNPLANNED SHUTDOWN GREATER THAN 72 HOURS (UPDATE)

DESCRIPTION:

On October 2, 2011, at 1:00 a.m. (EDT), Perry Nuclear Power Plant began to shut down the reactor (Event Notification 47312) as required by Technical Specification 3.8.1.A.2 due to one of two required off-site power sources being inoperable.

The Unit 1 startup transformer, one of the two required off-site power sources, was declared inoperable at 5:29 a.m. (EDT) on September 29, 2011, due to a suspected internal electrical fault, which also caused a crack in the reservoir that holds oil used to cool the transformer. This put the plant in a Technical Specification Limiting Condition for Operation (LCO) to restore the startup transformer within 72 hours or shutdown. The other source of off-site power remained available.

On October 17, 2011, the NRC approved an emergency, one-time Technical Specification amendment request to allow the licensee to operate for approximately 60 days with the startup transformer currently out-of-service, while another transformer is modified and installed. The NRC resident inspectors verified that the compensatory actions specified in the Technical Specification amendment were implemented. Perry was restarted on October 19, 2011.

The NRC resident inspectors monitored plant shutdown and restart, and will continue to monitor licensee compensatory actions and activities as they complete the replacement of the transformer.

The information presented herein has been discussed with the licensee and is current as of October 19, 2011, at 8:30 a.m. (EDT).

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