

January 12, 2012

PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION OF EVENT OR UNUSUAL OCCURRENCE - PNO-IV-11-009A

This preliminary notification constitutes EARLY notice of events of POSSIBLE safety or public interest significance. Some information is as initially received without verification or evaluation by the Region IV, Arlington, Texas staff.

Facility

South Texas Project Nuclear Operating
Company
South Texas Project Unit 2
P.O. Box 289
Wadsworth, TX 77483
Docket: 50-499
License No. NPF-80

Licensee Emergency Classification

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

SUBJECT: Update to South Texas Project Unit 2 Reactor Trip

DESCRIPTION:

This preliminary notification supplements information in PNO-IV-11-009, which documented the shutdown of South Texas Project Unit 2 on November 29, 2011, due to a main generator fault. Automatic protective features for the main generator caused it to go offline, resulting in a turbine trip and a reactor trip per design. Inspections of the main generator identified that a ground fault had occurred in the main generator stator.

During inspections following the event, plant personnel identified damage to the main generator and other components resulting from the ground fault. The licensee will restore the plant to operation once repairs to the main generator have been completed. The cause of the ground fault has not yet been determined.

The reactor is stable in Mode 5 (Cold Shutdown) while the main generator is being repaired. The NRC continues to monitor licensee corrective actions and root cause determinations of the trip, and will evaluate them prior to plant restart.

Unit 1 was unaffected by the event and continues to operate at 100 percent power.

The information presented herein has been discussed with the licensee and is current as of 3:00 p.m. (CST), on January 12, 2012.

ADAMS ACCESSION NUMBER: ML12012A349

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