

PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION- REGION III

June 19, 2012

PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION OF EVENT OR UNUSUAL OCCURRENCE -- PNO-III-12-005

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

DESCRIPTION:

On June 7, 2012, at 09:00 a.m. (EDT), Perry Nuclear Power Plant conducted a down power to 60 percent in preparation to conduct fuel suppression testing to further investigate the indication of a possible small fuel leak. During the down power the operating crew observed unexpected oscillations in the position of a recirculation flow control valve. This valve is one of two valves that help control the power level of the reactor.

Subsequently on June 14, 2012, at 11:00 a.m. (EDT), Perry Nuclear Power Plant began a shutdown of the reactor plant to repair the recirculation flow control valve. The plant went off line at midnight. A trouble shooting team determined the failure to be a bad connector in the circuitry that provides feedback to the valve control logic. The connector was repaired on June 16, 2012. Post maintenance testing of the valve indicated that the oscillation problem was corrected by the repairs. The reactor plant is in the process of returning to full power.

The NRC resident inspectors monitored plant shutdown and will continue to monitor licensee activities as they return to service.

This Preliminary Notification is issued for information only. State and local officials have been informed.

The information presented herein has been discussed with the licensee and is current as of June 19, 2011, at 11:00 a.m. (EDT).

ADAMS Accession Number: ML12171A307

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