

April 2, 2013

PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION OF EVENT OR UNUSUAL OCCURRENCE -- PNO-IV-13-002

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 IV, Arlington, Texas, staff on this date.

Facility

Arkansas Nuclear One, Units 1 and 2
Entergy
Russellville, Arkansas
Dockets: 05000313; 05000368
License Nos. DPR-51; NPF-6

Licensee Emergency Classification

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

SUBJECT: ARKANSAS NUCLEAR ONE, UNIT 2, NOTIFICATION OF UNUSUAL EVENT

DESCRIPTION:

On March 31, 2013, at approximately 7:50 a.m. (CDT), Arkansas Nuclear One (ANO), Unit 1 which was in a refueling outage, lost offsite power and ANO Unit 2 experienced a reactor trip after a 600 ton generator stator fell onto the turbine deck and then approximately 30 feet onto the train bay floor. The electrical non-vital busses supplying offsite power to Unit 1 were damaged, and some of the fire suppression system piping was damaged. The falling stator and crane components caused the supply breaker to Unit 2 reactor coolant pump B to open. The loss of reactor coolant pump B resulted in a Unit 2 reactor trip, which had been operating at 100 percent power. Both units are stable and remain shutdown.

The licensee reported that one worker was killed and eight others were injured when the main generator stator fell. Seven workers have been treated and released from a hospital, while one remains hospitalized.

With the loss of offsite power to Unit 1, both Unit 1 emergency diesel generators (EDGs) started and loaded onto their electrical busses. Decay heat removal was quickly restored. The Unit 1 emergency diesel generators continue to supply power to the vital electrical busses.

At 9:22 a.m. (CDT), offsite power to Unit 2 from startup transformer 3 was lost because water from a fire main caused a short circuit. ANO Unit 2 EDG 2 started and energized the train B vital electrical bus, while train A vital and non-vital electrical busses were re-energized from startup transformer 2. The supply breaker from startup transformer 3 failed because of water intrusion stemming from damaged fire suppression system piping. Operators cooled down Unit 2 to hot shutdown.

At 10:44 a.m. (CDT), the licensee declared a Notification of Unusual Event because the failure of the supply breaker may have been caused by an explosion in the breaker cubicle. The event was terminated at 6:21 p.m. because the affected electrical bus was not energized and there was no other damage. The fire suppression system to ANO Unit 1 is shutdown due to the damage to the fire water system piping. Damaged portions of the ANO Unit 2 fire protection system have been isolated. Additional fire water pumps have been positioned to provide fire water if necessary. The licensee has established fire watches in the auxiliary buildings of both units.

The licensee informed the State of Arkansas Department of Health of the Notification of Unusual Event at 10:48 a.m. (CDT).

The licensee has issued a press release.

The NRC resident inspectors responded to ANO, and are monitoring the licensee's actions. Two additional inspectors were dispatched to the site.

The Region IV office received initial notification of this occurrence by telephone from the Senior Resident Inspector on March 31, 2013, at 8:25 a.m. (CDT). This information presented herein has been discussed with the licensee and is current as of 5:30 p.m. (CDT) on April 1, 2013.

CONTACTS:

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ADAMS ACCESSION NUMBER: ML13092A024