

PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION

February 17, 2015

PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION OF EVENT OR UNUSUAL OCCURRENCE—PNO-III-15-001A

This preliminary notification constitutes EARLY notice of events of POSSIBLE safety or public interest significance. Some of the information may not yet be fully verified or evaluated by the Region III staff.

Facility

Prairie Island Nuclear Plant
Northern States Power Co.
Welch, MN
Docket: 50-282
License: DPR-42

Licensee Emergency Classification

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

SUBJECT: UPDATE: SHUTDOWN OF PRAIRIE ISLAND UNIT 1 DUE TO INCREASING TREND IN REACTOR COOLANT SYSTEM LEAKAGE

Prairie Island Unit 1 was restarted on February 11, 2015. Prairie Island Unit 1 was shut down on January 26, 2015, to repair a leak from one of two reactor coolant pumps. The leak was identified after plant operators observed an increasing trend in the reactor coolant system leakage rate following repairs made to the reactor coolant pump seal in December. The plant shut down prior to the seal leakage reaching the licensee's administrative limit, which was lower than the 1 gallon per minute (gpm) limit specified in the Technical Specifications. The peak leakage measured was 0.596 gpm. The reactor coolant pumps ensure adequate cooling of the reactor when the plant is operating. There was no release to the environment from this event.

After the pump was repaired, plant operators commenced a startup and the reactor was made critical on February 11, 2015. The unit was synchronized to the electrical grid on February 12, 2015, and full power was reached on February 13, 2015. The Resident Inspectors were on site and monitored portions of the startup activities.

This preliminary notification is issued for information only and no further action by the staff is anticipated. State officials have been informed.

The information presented herein has been discussed with the licensee, and is current as of 08:30 am CDT, on February 17, 2015.

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