

PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION

September 15, 2015

PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION OF EVENT OR UNUSUAL OCCURRENCE - PNO-III-15-009

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 and is basically all that is known by the Region III staff on this date.

Facility

Fermi Power Plant (Fermi 2)
DTE Energy Company
Newport, MI
Docket: 50-341
License: NPF-43

Licensee Emergency Classification

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

SUBJECT: UNPLANNED SHUTDOWN GREATER THAN 72 HOURS FOLLOWING THE LOSS OF COOLING WATER IN THE TURBINE BUILDING

At 11:05 p.m. (EDT) on September 13, 2015, operators manually shut down (scrammed) Fermi 2 from 100 percent power after attempts to correct a malfunction of a nonsafety-related cooling water system in the turbine building were unsuccessful and the three pumps in the system shut down. The malfunction arose earlier that evening while operators were working on the cooling water system heat exchangers.

All control rods inserted and all plant systems responded normally to the scram. The loss of the nonsafety-related cooling water system resulted in the loss of the station compressed air system, which affected valves that are operated by air. Operators took the appropriate actions for those affected valves.

The licensee is investigating the cause of the malfunction and will be repairing two valves that were identified as in need of repair. On September 14, the licensee successfully restarted the nonsafety-related cooling water system. The licensee stated that the reactor would be shutdown for at least 72 hours.

The NRC resident inspector was notified of the scram, promptly responded to the plant, and monitored activities throughout the early morning. The NRC is currently monitoring the troubleshooting, repair, and restart activities.

This preliminary notification is issued for information only.

State and local officials have been informed.

Region III received initial notification of the occurrence by a telephone call shortly after the event via Event notification No. 51391.

The information presented herein has been discussed with the licensee, and is current as of 9:45 am (CDT), September 15, 2015.

ADAMS Accession Number ML15258A691

Contact: Michael Kunowski
630-829-9618
michael.kunowski@nrc.gov