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NRC Evaluates Unusual Event at DC Cook Nuclear Plant

On July 6, an incident at the DC Cook Nuclear Plant, Unit 2, resulted the declaration of an Unusual Event, the lowest level of alert on the Nuclear Regulatory Commission's emergency response scale. The NRC is reviewing the circumstances around the incident, which involved a steam line rupture and subsequent damage to a turbine building wall on the non-nuclear side of Unit 2.

Unit 2 was manually shut down in a stable condition, and the Unusual Event was terminated an hour and 15 minutes later. The incident did not impact public health and safety. Unit 1 remains at full power.

An NRC resident inspector immediately responded to the plant after being notified of the event to closely follow the company's actions. NRC inspectors at the site and in the NRC Region III office in Lisle, Ill., are independently evaluating the company's response to the situation and the plant's assessment of what caused the steam pipe rupture, and will review repairs as they occur.

DC Cook, operated by Indiana Michigan Power Co., is located in Bridgman, Mich., 13 miles south of Benton Harbor.