

PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION

September 13, 2016

PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION OF EVENT OR UNUSUAL OCCURRENCE: PNO-III-16-004

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

Davis-Besse Nuclear Power Station
FirstEnergy Nuclear Operating Co.
Oak Harbor, OH
Docket: 50-346
License: NPF-3

Licensee Emergency Classification

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

SUBJECT: UNPLANNED SHUTDOWN OF DAVIS-BESSE NUCLEAR POWER STATION FOR GREATER THAN 72 HOURS

On September 10, 2016, the Davis-Besse Nuclear Power Station automatically shut down due to an electrical issue with the main generator. The cause of the electrical issue is still being investigated, but is believed to be water intrusion into associated electrical components due to heavy rainfall from storms passing through the area.

The main generator is used by the plant to generate electricity using steam from the nuclear reactor. If an unexpected problem occurs affecting the operation of the main generator, then the reactor is designed to automatically shutdown to prevent damage to plant components.

During the shutdown, there was also an unexpected issue with high level indication on one of the two steam generators. The steam generators are used to generate steam using hot water from the reactor which, as stated above, is used to generate electricity using the main generator. The plant operators responded to this issue and maintained steam generator level within the normal range. The cause of the high steam generator level indication is also being investigated by the plant.

The plant is currently shut down and in a stable condition. The resident inspectors responded to the event and are evaluating the licensee's investigation regarding the cause of the main generator and steam generator level issues. The NRC will review the licensee's actions before plant restart.

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

The information presented herein has been discussed with the licensee, and is current as of 10:51 am EST, on September 13, 2016.

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