

September 29, 2016

PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION OF EVENT OR UNUSUAL OCCURRENCE - PNO-IV-16-003

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

Grand Gulf Nuclear Station
P.O. Box 756
Port Gibson, MS 39150
Docket: 50-416
License No. NPF-29

Licensee Emergency Classification

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

SUBJECT: GRAND GULF EXTENDED PLANT SHUTDOWN TO ADDRESS OPERATIONS PERFORMANCE

DESCRIPTION:

On September 27, 2016, Grand Gulf Nuclear Station plant management notified the NRC of their intent to delay start-up of the plant, following a forced outage, to implement corrective actions to assess and resolve operational performance concerns. The plant completed a 16 day forced outage to replace a residual heat removal pump on September 24, 2016. Two separate operational performance issues occurred during startup preparation. Plant operators identified four valves that were inappropriately closed, rendering the alternate decay heat removal system inoperable. That system was required to be available while workers replaced a safety-related pump on the residual heat removal system. Additionally, plant operators opened a main feedwater isolation valve prior to securing the condensate system from a configuration that resulted in a rapid and unanticipated reactor vessel level increase from 33 inches to 151 inches. The timeline for a plant restart is under review by plant leadership while they determine a path forward.

NRC Region IV management received notification of this plan by a telephone call from Grand Gulf plant management at about 3:00 p.m. (CDT) on September 26, 2016.

This preliminary notification is issued for information only and no further action by the staff is anticipated.

The State of Mississippi has been notified.

The information presented herein has been discussed with the licensee and is current as of 9:30 a.m. (CDT) September 29, 2016.

ADAMS ACCESSION NUMBER: ML16273A330

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