

From: [Sheehan, Neil](#)
To: [Cline, Leonard](#)
Subject: FW: Re: closure of Pilgrim
Date: Wednesday, January 18, 2017 11:31:02 AM

From: Sheehan, Neil
Sent: Tuesday, January 10, 2017 2:58 PM
To: 'Diane Turco' <tturco@comcast.net>
Subject: RE: Re: closure of Pilgrim

Ms. Turco,

We don't maintain copies of the procedures. However, here's what we wrote in a letter on this topic we issued last year:

To mitigate the potential for a repeat of previous winter storm events at Pilgrim the plant has revised procedures to direct operators to place the plant in a safe condition based on impending and in progress weather conditions. The revisions direct operators to take action based on criteria that considers information provided by National Weather Service forecasts and available through the plant's meteorological towers when the weather event is in progress. The information used includes: winter storm and blizzard watches and warnings, forecasted and actual sustained wind speed and direction, and forecasted and actual snowfall rates.

The actions directed by the procedure based on these criteria, in the most severe cases include plant shutdown and cooldown. Other actions include plant walk downs, pre-emptive power reductions, topping off diesel fuel tanks, manually starting and loading emergency diesel generators and staging additional personnel and emergency response equipment. For the most severe cases, like winter storm Juno, the intent of the directed action is to reduce the risk of core damage due to a loss of offsite power by reducing the plant's heat load before the loss of offsite power occurs. Therefore, when weather conditions indicate that the probability of loss of offsite power is high based on the procedure's specified criteria, the procedure changes now direct shutting the plant down and immediately placing the shutdown cooling system in service to cool down to <200 F. Cooling the plant down to <200 F significantly reduces the cooling demand on the plants safety equipment and significantly increases the amount of time that the plant can remain safe without off-site power.

Since winter storm Juno last year the plant has also implemented a temporary modification to increase the reliability of switchyard components during severe winter weather. The modification was intended to minimize the potential for flashover events like the one that occurred during winter storm Juno. The modification provides two portable generators and power packs that supply power to nine heat lamps positioned around key breakers and transformers in the switchyard. These heat lamps are used to warm the bushings associated with this equipment, which prevents snow packing and ice accumulation on the bushings that led to flashover during winter storm Juno. Although there is no prior history of use for this type of equipment at other nuclear power plants in this country, there is operating history from at least one fossil plant in western Pennsylvania that indicates some

success with this method. In addition the performance of the lamps during this past weekend's winter event indicates that they are capable of reducing the likelihood of snow packing and ice accumulation on the bushings.

Neil Sheehan
NRC Public Affairs
(610) 337-5331

From: Diane Turco [<mailto:tturco@comcast.net>]

Sent: Sunday, January 08, 2017 8:39 AM

To: Sheehan, Neil <Neil.Sheehan@nrc.gov>

Subject: [External_Sender] Re: closure of Pilgrim

Would you please forward those procedures? Folks are asking about it. thanks, Diane
On Jan 7, 2017, at 6:22 PM, Sheehan, Neil wrote:

Ms. Turco,

Our Senior Resident Inspector for Pilgrim is at the plant monitoring the weather conditions and plant personnel's response to the storm. She has verified that Pilgrim operators have entered and are taking actions consistent with the "Operations During Severe Weather" procedure. This procedure also describes specific conditions that would require a plant shutdown based on predictions from the National Weather Service or actual conditions onsite. At this point, the conditions that would require a plant shutdown are not predicted to occur.

Neil Sheehan
NRC Public Affairs
(610) 337-5331

On: 07 January 2017 14:31, "Diane Turco"
<tturco@comcast.net> wrote:

Hi Mr. Sheehan,
Will Entergy close Pilgrim before the blizzard? thanks, Diane