

PRIORITY 2

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 AUTH. NAME AUTHOR AFFILIATION
 DOERFLEIN, L. Region 1 (Post 820201)
 NORRIS, B. Region 1 (Post 820201)
 RECIP. NAME RECIPIENT AFFILIATION

SUBJECT: PNO-I-95-003: on 950201, plant experienced reactor
 recirculation pump runback to min flow from 77 percent
 power. Caused by plant personnel error. Resident inspectors
 dispatched. State of NY notified.

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 TITLE: Immediate/Confirmatory Action Ltr (50 Dkt-Other Than Emergency Prepar

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PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION OF EVENT OR UNUSUAL OCCURRENCE PNI-9503

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 I staff on this date.

Facility:
Niagara Mohawk Power Corp.
Nine Mile Point 1
Oswego, New York

Licensee Emergency Classification:
 Notification of Unusual Event
 Alert
 Site Area Emergency
 General Emergency
 Not Applicable

Docket No.: 50-220
License No.: DPR-63
Event No.: NA
Event Location Code: POW

SUBJECT: RECIRCULATION PUMP RUNBACK AND TURBINE TRIP

On February 1, 1995, at about 12:30 pm, Nine Mile Point (NMP) Unit 1 experienced a reactor recirculation pump runback to minimum flow from 77 percent power. The transient caused power and flow to pass through the restricted zone and stabilize in an undefined area to the left of the minimum flow line on the power-flow operating map.

Prior to the transient, the plant was operating at 77 percent power, with 98 percent recirculation flow, coasting down to the refueling outage scheduled to begin February 11. One of the five recirculation loops was isolated for maintenance on the recirculation pump motor generator set and controls.

The initiating event for the transient was a personnel error during the maintenance which caused a minimum flow signal to be sent to the operating recirculation pumps. The recirculation pump runback caused a rapid reduction in power and an attendant increase in reactor vessel water level. Reactor vessel water level increased to the trip setpoint for the turbine, and the generator subsequently tripped on reverse power. Because power was less than 45 percent when the turbine tripped, reactor protection system logic did not require a reactor scram. All safety systems responded as designed.

During the event, the reactor operator inserted control rods. Once the shift supervisor and a reactor engineer determined that flow was below procedural requirements, flow was increased to greater than 20%.

The resident inspectors are following the activities. Region I is dispatching a Special Inspection Team to the site, consisting of Region I, NRR, and contractor personnel. The team will review the causes, safety implications, and associated licensee actions which relate to this transient.

This preliminary notification is issued for information only.

Region I received initial notification of this occurrence by telephone from the NMP Senior Resident Inspector on February 1, 1995, about 2:00 pm. This information has been discussed with the licensee, and is current as of 3:30 pm on February 2, 1995.

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PDR I&E
PNO-I-95-003 PDR

12/11
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PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION OF EVENT OR UNUSUAL OCCURRENCE PN1-9503

Region I Public Affairs is prepared to respond to media inquiries. The State of New York was notified.

Contact: Larry Doerflein, SC 1-610/337-5378
Barry Norris, SRI 1-315/342-4041

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NRC Ops Ctr _____

INPO** 3:59pm.
NSAC** 3:59pm.

NRN** (Phone Verif: A. Byrdsong 504-1168 or 504-1166)

Regional Offices _____ RI Resident Office 4:03pm.

Licensee: 4:09pm.
(Reactor Licensees)

** General list for sending PNs by FAX

