

PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION OF EVENT OR UNUSUAL OCCURRENCE PNO-III-90-05 Date January 17, 1990

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 III staff on this date.

Facility: Commonwealth Edison Co. Licensee Emergency
Dresden Unit 2 Classification:
Morris, IL 60450 X Unusual Event
Alert
Docket No. 50-237 Site Area Emergency
General Emergency
Not Applicable

WCS

Subject: REACTOR SCRAM WITH MULTIPLE EQUIPMENT FAILURES

At 5:24 p.m. on January 16, 1990, the Unit 2 reactor scrambled as a result of a series of equipment malfunctions which began with a condensate pump motor failure. Region III (Chicago) is dispatching an Augmented Inspection Team (AIT) to the site to investigate the event.

The pump motor failure caused the condensate pump to trip, leaving two condensate pumps running. The standby condensate pump failed to start, causing two feedwater pumps to trip on low suction pressure. A third feedwater pump started, but reactor vessel water level decreased to the low level trip setting, and a reactor scram occurred, followed by a turbine trip.

The reserve auxiliary transformer, the normal off-site power supply, tripped unexpectedly. With the loss of off-site power, reactor operators started the Unit 2 emergency diesel generator in anticipation of the loss of the unit auxiliary transformer, the on-site power source from the main generator, which was lost following the turbine trip per design.

The 2/3 swing emergency diesel generator started automatically, and the two diesel generators supplied emergency electrical loads to the plant until a cross tie was established from Unit 3 to Unit 2 at 6:01 a.m. on January 17.

Reactor cooling was maintained with the isolation condenser or the high pressure coolant injection systems until shutdown cooling was established at 11 p.m. The unit was placed in cold shutdown at 2:10 a.m. on January 17.

The licensee declared an Unusual Event under its emergency plan and notified appropriate state and local agencies. The licensee is investigating the various equipment failures, including several which did not directly contribute to the event.

The senior and resident inspectors responded to the site, and a Region III electrical inspector was dispatched to the plant on January 17. Region III will issue a Confirmatory Action Letter to the licensee, documenting its agreement to quarantine the equipment involved pending its investigation and the review of the Augmented Inspection Team.

The State of Illinois has been notified. The technical information in this notification has been reviewed with licensee management.

The Headquarters Operations Center was notified of this event at 6:57 p.m. (CST) on January 16, 1990. This information is current as of 10 a.m., January 17, 1990.

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