

PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION

October 18, 2018

PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION OF EVENT OR UNUSUAL OCCURRENCE

PNO-III-19-001

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

Palisades Nuclear Plant
Entergy Nuclear Operations, Inc.
Covert, MI
Docket: 05000255

Licensee Emergency Classification

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

Subject: Maintenance Outage to Repair Control Rod Drive and Failed Transformer

On Saturday, October 13, 2018, the NRC resident inspectors informed Region III that the licensee had shut down in order to repair a control rod drive seal which had elevated non-pressure boundary leakage. The leakage had remained under the Technical Specification limit of one gallon per minute but had been increasing. The licensee repaired the leak.

On Monday, October 15, 2018, during restart activities a step down transformer, which is used to reduce voltages to levels that can be used by plant equipment, failed. No significant operational transient occurred from the transformer failing. As of the issuance of this document the unit remains shut down in order to repair the step down transformer.

The resident inspector was on site at the time of the transformer failure and responded to the control room to verify licensee actions.

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

Region III received initial notification of this occurrence by phone from the senior resident inspector on Saturday with an update provided October 16, 2018 at 2:30 pm CDT. The information presented herein has been discussed with the licensee, and is current as of 2:00 p.m. EST, October 18, 2018.

ADAMS Accession Number: ML18291B338

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