

June 1, 1979

PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION OF EVENT OR UNUSUAL OCCURRENCE -- PNO-79-132

This preliminary notification constitutes EARLY notice of an event of POSSIBLE safety or public interest significance. The information presented is as initially received without verification or evaluation and is basically all that is known by IE staff as of this date

FACILITY: Florida Power and Light Company

Turkey Point, Unit Nos. 3 and 4 Docket Nos. 50-250 and 50-251

Homestead, Florida

SUBJECT: DIESEL GENERATORS INOPERABLE

Turkey Point Unit 3 is being brought to cold shutdown from a hot shutdown condition, based on the inability to declare either of the two Emergency Diesel Generators (D/G) operable. Unit 4 is in a refueling outage. The licensee had previously reported, to the NRC, a failure of the A D/G on Monday, May 28 due to a failed field transformer. This transformer failure occurred after 10 hours of a 24 hour full load test. The test was conducted at the request of NRR. Subsequent testing of the A D/G with a new field transformer, resulted in a repeat failure of the replacement transformer. Based upon information from vendors, the licensee disconnected the transformer neutral from the A D/G and eliminated circulating currents, which were the apparent source of the transformer failures. The A D/G can be used if required, but has temporary field transformers installed.

At 7:00 a.m. on May 31 the licensee attempted to test the B Diesel Generator with the field transformers modified to eliminate circulating currents. The B Diesel Generator voltage could not be controlled and the B D/G was also declared inoperable. The failure has been tentatively identified as a loose fuse holder.

The availability of replacement field transformers is being investigated. Both Units 3 and 4 will remain in cold shutdown until both diesel generators are fully operable.

Media interest is not expected at this time. Neither licensee nor the NRC plan to issue a news release. The State of Florida has been informed.

Region II (Atlanta) received notification of this occurrence by telephone from the licensee at 1:15 p.m. on May 31.

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