

Date: November 28, 1980

PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION OF EVENT OR UNUSUAL OCCURRENCE--PHO-111-80-219

This preliminary notification institutes EARLY notice of events 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 ICF staff as of this date.

Facility: Wisconsin Electric Power Company
Point Beach 1 (Docket No. 50-266)
Two Creeks, WI

Subject: REACTOR TRIPS CAUSED BY CLOSURE OF THE MAIN FEEDWATER REGULATING VALVE

On November 26, 1980, Unit 1 experienced a reactor trip at 4:34 a.m. following the closure of the A main feedwater regulating valve which resulted in low-low level in the A steam generator. The licensee believed the valve control airline had failed at the fitting to the controller, allowing the valve to close and causing a vibration or water hammer which damaged lagging and other valve airlines. Following repairs to the airlines, walkdown of the feedwater piping, and review by the onsite review committee, the unit went critical at 9:57 a.m. and was synchronized to the grid at 11:09 a.m., 11/26/80. Tests of the valve during shutdown, lower power operation, and power ascension disclosed no problems. The unit reached 80% power (full power) about 2:45 p.m.

After operating at 80% power for approximately an hour the same thing happened. A loud noise was heard in the turbine building. The Unit 1 reactor tripped at 3:42 p.m. from low-low level in the A steam generator. The A main feedwater regulating valve had shut for unknown reasons and the resulting vibration or water hammer caused damage to two valves, two pipe hangers, two pipe restraints, and lagging. The licensee has decided to keep the unit down and start the refueling outage which was originally scheduled to begin on November 28, 1980. Investigation, evaluation, and repairs will be completed prior to resuming operation.

The licensee notified the news media of the shutdown and the refueling outage. The NRC is notifying the State of Wisconsin.

The reactor trips were reported on the Red Phone by the licensee. The resident inspector has been onsite following the trips and the licensee's actions. He reported the above information to Region III on 11/26/80. This information is current as of 9:00 a.m. on November 28, 1980.

Contact: W. C. Culdemond, RIII
414/755-2309

R. F. Warnick, RIII
312/932-2565

R. F. Heishman, RIII
312/932-2540

8L0L300748PDR

POOR ORIGINAL