

PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION

July 17, 1981

PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION OF EVENT OR UNUSUAL OCCURRENCE PNO-II-81-54

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: Carolina Power and Light Company  
Brunswick 1  
Docket No. 50-325  
Southport, North Carolina



SUBJECT: MAIN TURBINE BEARING DAMAGE STATUS

Restart of Unit 1 after the current maintenance outage will be delayed 6 to 8 weeks due to main turbine bearing damage. Four of the ten bearings have been inspected. Two of those bearings have imbedded metal particles of undetermined origin. The remaining six bearings will be inspected sequentially.

During turbine startup on July 10, the turbine tripped due to low lubricating oil pressure. The low oil pressure was determined to be caused by a check valve not seating in the main oil pump suction supply system. The sticking check valve has been corrected. During this investigation, the lubricating oil was found to contain foreign material. Oil samples contain traces of copper and zinc.

The licensee is continuing to investigate the extent of bearing damage and plans to flush and clean the lubricating oil system. The resident inspectors are following the progress of the licensee's investigation.

The licensee has issued a press release. The NRC plans no press release. Local media interest has occurred. The State of North Carolina has been informed.

Region II (Atlanta) received notification of this occurrence by telephone from the Senior Resident Inspector at 2:00 p.m. on July 16. This information is current as of 9:00 a.m. on July 17.

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Applicable Resident Site 9:44

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Applicable Utility 9:54

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