PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION OF EVENT OR UNUSUAL OCCURRENCE PNO-II-82-140

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 II staff on this date.

FACILITY: Florida Power & Light Company
Turkey Point Unit 3
Docket No. 50-250
Homestead, Florida

Florida Power & Light Company
Licensee Emergency Classification:
Notification of Unusual Event
Site Area Emergency
General Emergency
X Not Applicable

SUBJECT: MEDIA INTEREST IN POWER OUTAGE

A reactor trip occurred on Turkey Point Unit 3 at 11:33 a.m. on December 28 while nuclear instrumentation power range calibration was under way. The unit was operating at full power. The instrumentation channel being calibrated was in the trip condition when a spurious signal occurred on another channel, providing the two out of three signals necessary to cause a reactor trip. All safety systems functioned as designed.

The shutdown of Unit 3 brought about a power grid transient which caused two Florida Power & Light fossil units in north Florida also to trip, resulting in the shedding of 800 megawatts and loss of electrical service to an estimated 280,000 customers. Power was restored within 30 minutes.

Turkey Point Unit 3 was returned to service at 2:36 p.m. on December 28. Unit 4 is down for steam generator replacement and refueling.

Media interest has occurred. The licensee has responded to media inquiries. The NRC does not plan a news release.

The State of Florida has been informed.

This information is current as of 9:30 a.m. on December 29.

Contact: K. D. Landis, RII 242-4198; R. C. Lewis, RII 242-5179

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Licensee: 10:39 (Reactor Licensees) Applicable Resident Site 10:31

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