

PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION OF EVENT OR UNUSUAL OCCURRENCE PNO-III-94-19

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 III staff on this date.

<u>Facility</u>	<u>Licensee Emergency Classification</u>
Zion 1	General Emergency
Commonwealth Edison Co.	Site Area Emergency
Zion, Illinois	Alert
	X Unusual Event
Docket No. 50-295	Not Applicable

Subject: FIRE IN GENERATOR BUS DUCTWORK

At 6:18 a.m. (CDT) on April 3, 1994, the Unit 1 generator tripped followed by a reactor trip. Subsequent to the generator trip, fire was discovered in the main generator bus duct. The plant fire brigade responded to the fire and the Zion City Fire Department was called to assist. The fire was extinguished, and the city fire department left the site at 9:05 a.m. There were no injuries.

Unit 1 was returning to service following a lengthy refueling and modification outage. The reactor was increasing power from 25 to 28 percent at the time of the generator trip. All safety systems functioned as expected during the shutdown. Unit 2 is also preparing to return to service after the dual unit outage.

The licensee is investigating the cause of the fire and assessing the extent of damage. The length of the forced outage is still unknown. The preliminary analysis found evidence of an arc between the electrical conductors leaving the generator. Hydrogen, used to cool the generator, was involved in the fire.

The licensee declared an unusual event under its emergency plan. State and local government agencies were notified. The licensee issued a news announcement.

The resident inspectors responded to the plant site to monitor the licensee's activities. A Region III (Chicago) electrical specialist will be dispatched to the site.

The licensee notified the NRC Operations Center of this event at 6:46 a.m. (CDT) on April 3, 1994. The information in this preliminary notification has been reviewed with licensee management. This information is current as of 9 a.m. on April 4, 1994.

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