

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.

DCD

Facility: Cleveland Electric Illuminating Co.
 Parmly at Center Road
 Perry, OH

Licensee Emergency Classification
 General Emergency _____ Site Area Emergency _____
 Alert _____ Unusual Event _____ N/A X

Docket No. 50-440

Subject: NEWS MEDIA INTEREST IN RELAY FAILURES

Cleveland, Ohio, news media carried reports on November 29, 1990, about the ongoing replacement of safety-related electrical relays at the Perry Nuclear Power Station. The Agastat relays were the subject of Information Notice 84-20, issued March 21, 1984, which indicated the relays had a service life of 4.5 years. (The Perry plant began operations in June 1986, but the relays would have been in service prior to that time.)

Three Agastat relays at Perry have failed due to internal heat buildup problems since 1987. There were 7 additional failures during this same time frame for unknown reasons. As a result of the third failure, in which a small isolation valve did not close as intended, the licensee initiated an initial replacement program during the current refueling outage. This program includes all safety-related Agastat relays which are continuously energized. Prior to the planned plant startup in mid-December, the licensee will replace all relays which have a control function for safety-related equipment. Some relays with indicator or alarm functions will also be replaced during the outage. The remaining relays (all having alarm or indication functions) will be replaced prior to July 1, 1991. (There are about 775 safety-related normally energized Agastat relays - about 236 in control functions and the remainder in alarm or indicator functions. The relays are used in numerous safety-related systems.) Other Agastat relays in the plant are not continuously energized or do not have a safety-related function. The licensee is reviewing these applications to establish an adequate corrective action program.

The licensee has met with Region III (Chicago) and the Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation to describe its replacement program. Region III will conduct an inspection to review the circumstances of the continued use of the relays and any maintenance or surveillance program for the relays adopted by the licensee.

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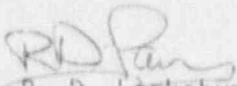
*Denotes a Displaywriter/PC not an IBM 5520 Terminal.


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The State of Ohio will be informed. The information in this Preliminary Notification has been reviewed with licensee management.

This information is current as of 10 a.m., November 29, 1990.

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