

April 9, 1993

PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION OF EVENT OR UNUSUAL OCCURRENCE PNO-II-93-015

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 Corporation
Crystal River 3
Crystal River, Florida
Dockets: 50-302

Licensee Emergency Classification

X Notification of Unusual Event
Alert
Site Area Emergency
General Emergency
Not Applicable

Subject: MEDIA INTEREST: LOSS OF OFFSITE POWER AND EMERGENCY SIREN ACTIVATION

Crystal River Unit 3 plans to issue a press release today about an Unusual Event that was declared at 6:55 p.m. on April 8, 1993, after a loss of offsite power with the unit shut down in Mode 5. Offsite power, which was being supplied from the 500 KV switchyard, was lost at 6:04 p.m. on April 8. The B emergency diesel generator started and loaded as expected. Decay heat removal cooling was restored in five minutes, with motor coolant system temperature increasing from 85 to 87 degrees F. Offsite power was restored to the B train safety bus from 230 KV offsite power and to the nonsafety busses from 500 KV offsite power. The cause of the loss of 500 KV power has not been determined, but maintenance was in progress on the battery which supplies DC control power to the 500 KV switchyard breakers. The licensee exited the Unusual Event at 8:45 p.m.

During the evening of April 8, 1993, the Headquarters Operations Center received a call from the National Response Center reporting that a concerned citizen, living near the Crystal River site, called expressing concern about the alarms at Crystal River Nuclear Plant going off. Other government agencies notified were FEMA, DOE and EPA. NRC Region II personnel contacted the concerned citizen and discussed the status of the Crystal River plant. Subsequently, the Headquarters Operations Center was informed by the Crystal River Shift Supervisor that the local counties were sounding the Crystal River plant sirens to warn residents of an upcoming storm. The siren system at Crystal River is considered a dual use system (e.g. it may be used for nuclear power plant and local non-nuclear emergencies). Friday morning, April 9, 1993, weather forecasts predict coastal flooding and high winds for the Crystal River area.

The State of Florida was informed by the licensee.

NRC received initial notification of this event by licensee phone to the NRC Duty Officer at 7:18 p.m. (EDT) on April 8, 1993.

Information is current as of 9:00 a.m. on April 9, 1993.

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