

March 17, 1993

PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION OF EVENT OR UNUSUAL OCCURRENCE PNO-II-93-012

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

Carolina Power & Light Co.  
Brunswick 1 2  
Southport, North Carolina  
Dockets: 50-325, 50-324

Licensee Emergency Classification

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

Subject: LOSS OF OFFSITE POWER

On March 16, 1993, at approximately 6:56 p.m. EST, Brunswick Nuclear Plant Unit 2 lost offsite power due to salt spray buildup in the switchyard. The salt buildup caused a transformer bus lockout and a 230 kv bus 2B lockout. All four emergency diesel generators started. Shutdown cooling was lost in Unit 1 and Unit 2. At approximately 7:07 p.m. EST, the site declared an Unusual Event.

Both Units have been shut down since April 21, 1992, decay heat loads are minimal. Shutdown cooling was restored at approximately 7:34 p.m. EST for Unit 1 and at approximately 7:59 p.m. EST for Unit 2.

At approximately 3:28 a.m. EST on March 17, 1993, Unit 1 lost offsite power, also caused by salt spray buildup in the switchyard. Additionally, shutdown cooling on Unit 1 was again lost. At approximately 4:58 a.m. EST, shutdown cooling was restored on Unit 1. The licensee is washing down the switchyards to remove the salt buildup. Unit 2 switchyard is expected to be returned to service within the next two hours. Unit 1 switchyard washdown should be completed by late afternoon and power restored. The washdown activities on Unit 1 switchyard will result in power outages in Southport, NC.

The licensee activated their TSC to direct offsite power recovery and EOF to handle offsite communications. The resident inspector reported to the site to monitor activities.

The licensee will issue a press statement on the local power outages. Local media interest is anticipated.

The NRC has notified the State of North Carolina and the local counties, who are also getting good information from the licensee.

This information is current as of 8:45 a.m. EST on March 17, 1993.

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