

BOSTON EDISON COMPANY
PILGRIM NUCLEAR POWER STATION
DOCKET NO. 50-293

Attachment to LER 83-009

On 2/13/83, at 1025, during a shutdown caused by a load reject scram that had occurred at 0039 the same day, a loss of offsite power occurred when switchyard instrumentation sensed an off-normal condition and automatically opened the air controlled breakers (ACB) for the 345 KV supply to the start-up transformer. The station emergency diesel generators started as designed and station safety-related equipment functioned as intended during and after the switch over to the diesel generators. The secondary off-site power source via the shutdown transformer was still available as a back up to the preferred emergency source (diesel generators) during this event.

The scram occurred when a heavy ocean storm caused a salt build-up on the switchyard insulators creating arcing to ground which subsequently caused the opening of ACB's 104 and 105. While the isolated section of the switchyard was being washed down, melting ice and salt deposits on the remaining in service portion of the switchyard created a separate ground that eventually caused the opening of the inservice breakers and resultant loss of offsite power to the startup transformer.

Following the washdown of the switchyard, the power was restored to the start up transformer and preparation for startup commenced.

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