

March 24, 1983

PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION OF EVENT OR UNUSUAL OCCURRENCE -- PNO-IV-83-12

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 NRC staff on this date.

FACILITY: Arkansas Power & Light Co.
Arkansas Nuclear One, Unit 1
Docket No: 50-313
Russellville, Arkansas

Licensee Emergency Classification:
 Notification of Unusual Event
 Alert
 Site Area Emergency
 General Emergency
 Not Applicable

SUBJECT: REACTOR TRIP BREAKER FAILURE

On March 23, 1983, following completion of the control rod drive mechanism patch verification test, the licensee deenergized the CRDM's by performing a manual reactor trip from the control room. The 'A' AC reactor trip breaker failed to trip, indicating a failure of the undervoltage trip mechanism. The breaker was subsequently tripped mechanically. The breaker is a General Electric type AK-2A. It had been successfully tested on 3/14/83 in response to IEB 83-04.

The ANO-1 reactor protection system and manual trip design open the reactor trip breakers using an undervoltage trip mechanism only. The shunt trip mechanism is not safety-related and may be activated only at the breaker locations.

Vendor representatives will go to the site to assist in the investigation. The unit is in cold shutdown, making preparation for heatup following a refueling outage.

No media interest has occurred concerning the reactor trip breakers at ANO. The licensee does not plan a news release, but will respond to inquiries. The NRC does not plan a news release.

This information is current as of 10:00 a.m. on March 24, 1983.

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(Reactor Licensees)

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