

PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION OF EVENT OR UNUSUAL OCCURRENCE PN1-9436

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 I staff on this date.

Facility:

Duquesne Light Company
Beaver Valley 1 and 2
Shippingport, PA

Licensee Emergency Classification:

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

Docket Nos.: 50-334 and 50-412
License Nos.: DPR-66 and NPF-73
Event Nos.: 27328 and 27329
Event Location Code: PWR

SUBJECT: FIRE IN MAIN TRANSFORMER CAUSES DUAL UNIT REACTOR TRIP

At 2:55 p.m. on June 1, 1994, a fault and subsequent fire in the Unit 1 main transformer caused automatic isolation of the main generator, followed by a turbine trip and a reactor trip. The electrical transient caused grid underfrequency and resulted in a trip of three Unit 2 reactor coolant pumps. The trip of the reactor coolant pumps caused the reactor to trip.

The fire in the Unit 1 main transformer was extinguished in 8 minutes by the transformer deluge system and the site fire brigade. The emergency action level for Unusual Event was not reached since the fire was extinguished in less than 10 minutes. There were no personnel injuries, and damage appears to be limited to the transformer.

Unit 1 electrical loads were being supplied by the main generator at the time of the event. All 4kV buses transferred to offsite power (and remained energized), but the transient caused undervoltage/underfrequency trips of one reactor coolant pump, both main feed pumps, and other miscellaneous secondary equipment. The auxiliary feedwater pumps automatically started to maintain inventory in the steam generators. The No. 2 emergency diesel generator started because of an undervoltage signal, but did not supply power to its emergency bus because the undervoltage condition cleared immediately. The No. 1 emergency diesel generator did not start, and the licensee is investigating whether it should have started. Unit 1 also experienced letdown system isolation on low pressurizer level caused by the plant cool-down.

Unit 2 electrical loads were being supplied by offsite power at the time of the event (the normal lineup for the current operating cycle). The electrical transient caused isolation of one of two Unit 2 offsite power supply transformers. The 4kV buses which lost offsite power (two normal buses and one emergency bus) automatically transferred to the main generator, but lost power following the reactor/turbine trip. Power was automatically restored to the deenergized emergency 4kV bus by its associated emergency diesel generator, and forced circulation was restored at 3:15 p.m. with the start of one RCP. At 3:36 p.m., the normal offsite power lineup was restored to Unit 2.

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Both units experienced a spurious control room isolation/pressurization system actuation which was probably caused by an electrical transient on one of the Unit 2 radiation monitors.

All three resident inspectors were on site and monitored plant and operator response to the event.

Unit 1 is being cooled down to Mode 5 and is expected to be shutdown for at least three weeks. Unit 2 is in Mode 3, and will be restarted following the post-trip review which will include resolution of why the offsite power supply transformer isolated. Resident inspectors will continue to monitor licensee recovery actions.

The NRC was notified about this event at approximately 4:30 p.m. (EDT) on June 1 by licensee emergency notification report. This PN is current as of 12:30 p.m., June 2. (Reportable Event Nos. 27328 and 27329)

Region I Public Affairs will respond to media inquiries. The Commonwealth of Pennsylvania has been notified.

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RI Resident Office 2:56 Pm.

Licensee: 2:56 Pm.
(Reactor Licensees)

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