

DCS No: 50293032491
Date: March 25, 1991

PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION OF EVENT OR UNUSUAL OCCURRENCE--PNO-I-91-23

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:
Boston Edison Company
Pilgrim Nuclear Power Station
Plymouth, Massachusetts
Docket No. 50-293

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

Subject: LOSS OF "B" TRAIN EMERGENCY POWER SUPPLY BUS A-6;
POSSIBLE TECHNICAL SPECIFICATION REQUIRED SHUTDOWN

At 10:30 p.m. on March 24, 1991, the Pilgrim station shutdown transformer tripped due to an unknown cause; no impact on operation occurred. Per Technical Specifications (TSS) requirements, Boston Edison Company (BECO) then tested both emergency diesel generators (EDGs). EDG-A passed the surveillance test. About 6:15 a.m. March 25, 1991, EDG-B tripped on a single phase overcurrent signal after being loaded for almost 15 minutes. Bus A-6 and associated buses powered by this EDG were lost. These buses power numerous safety-related loads including the "B" train low pressure emergency core cooling and Reactor Building Closed Cooling Water (RBCCW) systems as well as several containment isolation valve automatic closure logic circuits related to the Reactor Core Isolation Cooling (RCIC), Reactor Water Clean-Up (RWCU) and Shutdown Cooling systems. In addition, because the bus also powers the "B" recirculation pump M/G set auxiliary oil pump, the "B" recirculation pump tripped, dropping reactor power from 100% to 66% and placing the plant in single loop operation.

By 11:00 a.m. on March 25, 1991, the plant was stable at 33% power with RBCCW crosstied between trains to allow for normal drywell cooling. BECO is presently troubleshooting the electrical fault on the Bus A-6 loads. Bus A-6 itself has been found fault-free. Due to the loss of the "B" recirculation pump as well as the containment isolation functions to the above noted valves, the plant is in multiple 24-hour action statements which expire at 6:15 a.m., March 26, 1991. The appropriateness of extending the 24-hour statements by one day in order to provide time to restore the normal electrical lineup to permit a routine shutdown is being evaluated by BECO and the NRC.

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The Commonwealth of Massachusetts has been informed of this event. The plant is presently not in any emergency classification, but will enter an Unusual Event if a TS required shutdown is initiated.

The resident inspectors are onsite following BECo's activities. The Region I office is dispatching additional inspectors to follow plant conditions as warranted.

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