

PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION ( EVENT OR UNUSUAL OCCURRENCE--PNO-III-81-89 October 23, 1981

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 IE staff on this date.

Facility: Commonwealth Edison Company  
Dresden Unit 3 (Docket No. 50-249)  
Morris, IL

Licensee Emergency Classification:  
Notification of Unusual Event  
X Alert  
Site Area Emergency  
General Emergency  
Not Applicable  
~~DESIGNATED ORIGINAL~~

Subject: EMERGENCY DIESELS INOPERABLE

Certified By Chad McFormica

The shared Units 2/3 diesel generator (DG) failed its monthly surveillance test at 2:28 a.m. (CST), October 23, 1981 as a result of high cooling water temperature. Followup Technical Specification required testing of the Unit 3 D/G failed as a result of failure of cooling water pressure to develop. It was discovered that each (2/3 and 3) cooling water pump had failed as a result of air binding in the coolant pump casings. The pumps were vented and now operate properly. The Unit 2 D/G operated satisfactorily.

Although this event is categorized as a site alert, the site alert notification and emergency plan was not activated as a result of the problem being resolved before implementation occurred. The licensee notified IE:HQ via the ENS phone at 5:03 a.m. (CST). At the time of the event Unit 3 was operating at 100% power and Unit 2 at 50% power, these power levels are still being maintained.

The Resident Inspector, licensee staff, and a Region III (Chicago) specialist are following up on the cause of the air binding.

The State of Illinois is being notified.

No press release is planned by the licensee or by Region III.

Region III (Chicago) received notification of this event by telephone from the Resident Inspector at 8:30 a.m. (CST) October 23, 1981. This information is current as of 9:30 a.m. (CST).

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PNO-III-81-089 PDR

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