

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 staff on this date.

Facility: Consumers Power Company  
Palisades Nuclear Generating Plant  
Covert, MI 49043  
Docket No. 50-255

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

Subject: LOSS OF ALL OFF-SITE AND ON-SITE POWER - REACTOR DEFUELED

On 1/8/84, with the reactor defueled, the licensee planned to isolate a critical breaker in the switchyard to investigate an alarm. This involved removal of off-site power to the breaker. In preparation for this activity at 12:30 p.m., diesel generator 1-1 was started and aligned to electrical bus 1-C. The other diesel generator was out of service for maintenance. The licensee failed to recognize that the service water pump for diesel generator 1-1 was also out of service for maintenance and no other service water pump was available with the loss of offsite power. As a result, diesel generator 1-1 overheated and was manually tripped. This resulted in the loss of all onsite AC power (except 3 preferred AC busses on station batteries).

When the licensee attempted to restore off-site power to all three of the emergency buses, only 1-D actuated. A breaker malfunction prevented the restoration of off-site power to Bus 1-C. A Safety Injection System load shed block prevented the return of off-site power to Bus 1-E. This was due to the continued loss of power to a timer on the load shed block, which receives its power from Bus 1-C.

At 4:00 p.m., the control fuses on the block were pulled, and Bus 1-E was subsequently restored to service. The malfunctioning breaker on Bus 1-C was replaced with a spare, and power was restored to 1-C at 3:49 a.m. on January 9, 1984.

The plant systems, status and electrical configurations that existed immediately prior to this event would not be permitted during plant operations because of technical specifications and operating procedures.

Region III (Chicago) is currently evaluating the event and monitoring the licensee's course of action. The Offices of Nuclear Reactor Regulation and Inspection and Enforcement have been notified.

The reactor has been shut down since August 12, 1983. Restart is not planned until May 1984 pending resolution of steam generator problems.

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The State of Michigan will be notified.

Neither the licensee nor Region III plans a news announcement.

Region III was notified of this event at 6:00 p.m. (CST), on January 8, 1984. This information is current as of 1:00 p.m. (CST), January 10, 1984.

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