



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20555

October 18, 1982

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Docket No. 50-269/270/287

MEMORANDUM FOR: H. Denton
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THRU: John F. Stolz, Chief, Operating Reactors Branch #4,
Division of Licensing

FROM: Philip C. Wagner, Project Manager,
Operating Reactors Branch #4, Division of Licensing

SUBJECT: DAILY HIGHLIGHT

OCONEE NUCLEAR STATION, UNITS 1, 2 AND 3

Duke Power Company informed us of problems with the Dresser pressurizer code safety valves which caused them to declare these valves inoperable on October 14, 1982. Oconee Unit 3 was previously shutdown for a steam generator tube leak; Unit 2 commenced a shutdown for safety valve replacement; and Duke requested and was granted an emergency TS waiver to allow operation of Unit 1 until October 30, 1982.

The valve problem involves incorrect positioning of any of the three adjusting rings which control the lift setpoint and blowdown capacity. This problem was disclosed during the EPRI tests and has been discussed with the plants utilizing similar valves and the Regional Offices. The affected plant groups will provide information on the operability of the valves by October 18, 1982. A generic letter to all PWR licensees is being prepared to inform all plants and request their investigation of the problem.

Philip C. Wagner

Philip C. Wagner, Project Manager
Operating Reactors Branch #4, DL

cc:
ORB#4 File
JStolz, PWagner

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PDR FOIA
JORDAN83-765 PDR

October 15, 1982

PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION OF EVENT OR UNUSUAL OCCURRENCE PNO-II-82-113

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 II staff on this date.

FACILITY: Florida Power Corporation
Crystal River Unit 3
Docket No. 50-302
Crystal River, Florida

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

SUBJECT: SHUTDOWN IN EXCESS OF 48 HOURS

The licensee began an orderly shutdown of the unit at 2:30 p.m. on October 14 to investigate a leak in the vicinity of the reactor coolant drain tank. The unit is proceeding to cold shutdown today, and it is estimated that it will be out of service for three weeks.

During the shutdown, the licensee plans to repair the reactor coolant drain tank cooler, make repairs on reactor coolant pump seals, and replace two Dresser pressurizer code safety valves in the light of concerns raised by Electric Power Research Institute tests (discussed in PNO II-82-111, dated October 14, relating to Ocone).

The licensee declared an unusual event at 2:10 p.m. on October 14 because of a rise in airborne radioactivity levels in the reactor building, caused by the leak in the vicinity of the reactor coolant drain tank. The unusual event was ended at 3:35 p.m. after the shutdown was under way and radioactivity levels began to decline.

Media interest has occurred because of the reactor shutdown. The licensee plans to issue a news release. The NRC does not plan a news release.

The State of Florida has been informed.

The NRC headquarters incident response center was informed of this occurrence by telephone from the licensee at 2:12 p.m. on October 14.

This information is current as of 10 a.m. on October 15.

Contact: J. F. Rogge, RII, 242-5580; V. L. Brownlee, RII, 242-5577

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82-019-0271
PDR/IEE/PNO-11-82-113

October 14, 1982

PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION OF EVENT OR UNUSUAL OCCURRENCE PNO-II-82-111

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 II staff on this date.

FACILITY: Duke Power Company
Oconee Units 1, 2, and 3
Docket Nos. 50-260, 270, & 287
Seneca, South Carolina

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

SUBJECT: PRESSURIZER CODE SAFETY VALVE PROBLEM

On October 14 at 12:42 p.m., (EDT) the licensee began a shutdown on Unit 2 and declared an Unusual Event at 1:15 p.m. (EDT) after determining that pressurizer code safety valve design flow, based upon known valve ring settings, could not be fully maintained if called upon. The licensee action was prompted by notification from Babcock & Wilcox (B&W) regarding the possibility that adequate flow may not be obtained for the pressurizer code safety valves, manufactured by Dresser Industries, for some combinations of back pressure and valve adjustment. The concern arose from B&W's review of data from the generic relief and safety valve test program recently completed by the Electrical Power Research Institute (EPRI).

The licensee estimates that a seven-day outage will be required to change out the code safety valves.

Unit 1 is currently operating at 100 percent power, and the licensee has requested an exemption from the NRC's Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation (NRR) which would allow the Unit to operate with the ring set point for one valve undetermined until either Unit 2 or Unit 3 resumes operation. The Unit 1 valves would then be replaced.

Unit 3 is currently shut down for maintenance, and the code safety valves will be replaced prior to resumption of operation.

Media interest is anticipated. The licensee plans to issue a news release. The NRC does not plan to issue a news release.

The State of South Carolina has been informed.

The Office of Inspection and Enforcement is evaluating the generic aspects of this problem.

The NRC Response Center received notification of this occurrence by telephone from the licensee at 1:02 p.m. (EDT) on October 14.

Contact: A. Ignatonis, RII 242-5588; H. C. Dance, RII 242-5585

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