

February 5, 1992

PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION OF EVENT OR UNUSUAL OCCURRENCE -- PNO-IV-92-09

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 IV staff on this date.

FACILITY: Nebraska Public Power District
Cooper Nuclear Station
Docket: 50-298

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

SUBJECT: PLANT SHUTDOWN REQUIRED BY TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS (TS)

At 11 a.m. (CST) on February 4, 1992, the licensee declared all four instruments (NBI-LIS-57A and B and -58A and B) for main steam isolation valve (MSIV) closure, on low-low-low reactor water level, inoperable. Inoperability of the instruments requires that the reactor be placed in a cold shutdown condition within 24 hours. The licensee initiated a decrease in plant power and declared a Notice of Unusual Event at 11:29 a.m. because of a TS action statement requiring a plant shutdown. Reactor power was reduced to 62 percent prior to restoring instrument operability and securing from the Notice of Unusual Event at 6:10 p.m.

At 12 p.m. on February 3 (reference PNO-IV-92-07), the licensee declared all four instruments (NBI-LIS-72A, -B, -C, and -D) for reactor vessel level indication (RVLI) inoperable. A Notice of Unusual Event was also declared because of a plant shutdown required by a TS action statement. The licensee recalibrated three of the four RVLI instruments with new setpoints and exited the shutdown TS action statement and secured from the Notice of Unusual Event at 5:30 p.m. on February 3. The remaining instrument was subsequently recalibrated and returned to service.

During a review of the setpoint calculation for the RVLI instruments, the licensee determined that erroneous assumptions led to implementation of nonconservative setpoints. The licensee identified the additional four instruments for closure of the MSIVs as inoperable as a result of questions from Region IV and NRR. The same erroneous assumptions led to implementation of nonconsecutive setpoints for the MSIV closure instruments, as were made for the RVLI instruments. Two additional instruments (NBI-LIS-73A and -B) for containment spray, similar to the other instruments, have been evaluated for nonconservative setpoint errors and no problems were noted.

Neither the licensee nor the NRC plans to issue a press release.

The states of Nebraska and Missouri will be informed.

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RIV:AD:DRP
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Region IV received notification of this occurrence by the resident inspector at 11:10 a.m. on February 4, 1992, and an update for this PN by the resident inspector at 7:30 a.m. on February 5, 1992. Region IV has informed the EDO, NRR, and PA.

This information has been confirmed with a licensee representative.

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The Chairman	CA	NMSS	AEOD	INPO	DOT (Transp. Only)
Comm. Rogers	OGC	NRR	IRM	PDR	
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Comm. Remick	PA	OE		RRI	Regions & HQ)
Comm. dePlanque			NL	NRC Ops Ctr	
EDO	L-ST		RES	Licensee	
	PDR			ACRS	(PHONE VERIF: 2/5/92 @10:45
				OCAA	NRR 964-1168 or 964-1166)