

September 12, 1995

PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION OF EVENT OR UNUSUAL OCCURRENCE PNO-III-95-046

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 Region III staff (Lisle, Illinois) on this date.

Facility
Cleveland Electric Illuminating Co.
Perry 1
Perry, Ohio
Dockets: 50-440

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

Subject: REACTOR SCRAM CAUSED BY AUTOMATIC START OF RCIC SYSTEM

At 1:51 p.m. on September 11, 1995, the reactor tripped as a result of the unexpected automatic start of the reactor core isolation cooling (RCIC) system. Initiation of RCIC causes an automatic trip of the main turbine and the two turbine-driven reactor feedwater pumps. The main turbine stop valve fast closure, in turn, triggers the reactor scram.

The licensee has identified the cause of the RCIC start as a failed capacitor in an instrument power supply. With the tripping of the reactor feedwater pumps, water was injected into the reactor by the RCIC system and the high pressure core spray (HPCS) system. All systems functioned as expected during the reactor scram.

A similar event occurred on August 31, 1995, when the same instrument power supply failed, causing the spurious initiation of the RCIC system and leading to a reactor scram. The power supply problem was attributed to a failed resistor.

The licensee is investigating the cause of the power supply failures in the two events. The resident inspectors and a Region III supervisor are onsite, monitoring the licensee's response to the event.

The State of Ohio will be notified. The information in this preliminary notification has been reviewed with licensee management.

The licensee notified the NRC Operations Center of the reactor shutdown at 2:34 p.m. on September 11, 1995. This information is current as of 9 a.m. on September 12, 1995.

Contact: THOMAS TONGUE
(708)829-9613

ROGER LANKSBURY
(708)829-9631

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PDR I&E
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