

PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION OF EVENT OR UNUSUAL OCCURRENCE PNO-III-92-17 Date April 6, 1992

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 III staff on this date.

Facility: Dresden Unit 3
Commonwealth Edison Co.
Morris, IL 60450

Licensee Emergency Classification
General Emergency _____ Site Area Emergency _____
Alert X Unusual Event _____ N/A _____

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Docket No: 50-249

Subject: LOSS OF ALL CONTROL ROOM ANNUNCIATORS

At 8:25 p.m. (CST) on April 4, 1992, Dresden Unit 3 lost all its control room annunciators and the licensee declared an Alert in accordance with Dresden's Emergency Plan. Unit 3 was in cold shutdown mode and had been in a scheduled refueling outage for 210 days. The reactor coolant temperature was at 133 degrees F and the system was at atmospheric pressure. All control room instrumentation was functional with offsite and emergency onsite power available. All Unit 3 systems and equipment continued to function as required to maintain Unit 3 in its existing safe shutdown condition. Unit 2 was not affected by this event.

Several brief losses of annunciators occurred intermittently following the initial alert declaration. The annunciators were restored at 8:58 p.m. They were lost again at 9:30 p.m. and restored at 9:45 p.m.

A major upgrade of the annunciators was performed during the current refueling outage and the licensee's investigation included the areas which were affected. At 11:59 p.m., the licensee confirmed that the cause of the problem was a loose wire connector within the annunciator cabinet. The loose connector was due to stripped screw threads on a fuse block.

At 1:55 a.m. on April 5, 1992, the licensee terminated the Alert after replacing the problem fuse block and testing the system satisfactorily.

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

The licensee notified the NRC Operations Center of this event at 8:43 p.m. on April 4, 1992. The NRC Senior Resident Inspector reported to the site. The appropriate NRC staff at Region III and Headquarters were in communication with the licensee and monitored the event until termination of the Alert. This information is current as of 4:00 p.m. on April 5, 1992.

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*Denotes a Displaywriter/PC not an IBM 5520 Terminal

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FAX TO:

The Chairman	<u>8:06</u>	INPO	<u>7:50</u>
NSAC	<u>7:54</u>	LTC	<u>8:13</u>
PDR (87634-3343)	<u>8:04</u>	NRC OPS CTR	<u>7:42</u>
HO Public Affairs	<u>8:11</u>	OIG	<u>8:09</u>
A. Byrdsong, NRR			