

PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION OF EVENT OR UNUSUAL OCCURRENCE--PNO-I-92-19

This preliminary notification constitutes EARLY notice of events of POSSIBLE safety or public interest significance. The information has been verified by the licensee.

Facility:  
Niagara Mohawk Power Corporation  
Nine Mile Point Unit 1  
Syracuse, New York  
Docket No. 50-220

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

Subject: PLANT SHUTDOWN EXCEEDING 72 HOURS FOLLOWING REACTOR TRIP

At approximately 10:36 a.m. (EDT) on April 18, 1992, Nine Mile Point Unit One experienced a reactor trip from 98% power due to a high neutron flux condition caused by reactor pressure fluctuations. The pressure fluctuations were the result of the failure of the electrical pressure regulator (EPR) in the main turbine control system. The mechanical pressure regulator, which functions as a backup to the EPR, did not respond as expected. No safety or electromatic relief valves lifted. All other systems performed as designed, including the initiation of the high pressure coolant injection system (HPCI) to restore reactor water level immediately following the reactor scram. Reactor water level decreased to a minimum of 27 inches (113 inches above the active fuel) before the HPCI system restored level to the normal operating band.

Shutdown cooling was initiated and cold shutdown was reached at 8:17 p.m. on April 18. Niagara Mohawk Power Corporation (NMPC) has tentatively scheduled a seven day outage. Outage activities include repair of the turbine control system, two source range monitors and the No. 11 drywell equipment drain tank pump. NMPC has initiated a post scram review.

The NRC resident inspectors are onsite monitoring outage activities and the NMPC post scram review.

The NRC was notified about this event at approximately 11:55 a.m. (EDT) on April 18 by licensee emergency notification report. This PN is current as of 9:00 a.m., April 20 (Reportable Event No. 23268).

Headquarters Public Affairs is prepared to respond to media inquiries. The State of New York has been notified.

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Region I Form 83  
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