

December 19, 1995

PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION OF EVENT OR UNUSUAL OCCURRENCE PNO-IV-95-057

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 IV staff in Arlington, Texas on this date.

Facility

Entergy Operations, Inc.  
River Bend 1  
St Francisville, Louisiana  
Dockets: 50-458

Licensee Emergency Classification

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

Subject: UNIDENTIFIED REACTOR COOLANT SYSTEM LEAKAGE EXCEEDED 5.0 GPM

On December 19, 1995, at approximately 8:43 a.m. (CST), Reactor Recirculating Pump B tripped and Pump A downshifted to slow speed. The plant was operating at approximately 85 percent power, coasting down to the January 6, 1996, refueling outage. The operators were not confident that the reactor power-to-flow data indicated the plant was in a stable situation and manually scrammed the reactor at approximately 8:47 a.m. (CST). The plant responded normally. The operators stabilized the plant at a pressure band of 600-800 psig.

At 10:47 a.m. (CST), the licensee declared a Notification of Unusual Event when reactor coolant system unidentified leakage increased from approximately 2.5 to 5.6 gpm, which was in excess of the Technical Specification limit of 5.0 gpm. The licensee had been monitoring leakage over the past several days, because it was approximately 2 gpm above normal and was slowly increasing. The licensee is presently controlling reactor pressure to maintain leakage just below 5 gpm to facilitate detection. Personnel have entered the drywell to inspect for leaks at this time and have found a packing leak on the testable check valve on the high pressure core spray injection line.

The cause of the reactor recirculating pump trip is not known at this time. No work was being done on the pump control circuits.

The state of Louisiana has been informed.

Region IV received notification of this occurrence by telephone from the Senior Resident Inspector at 11 a.m. (CST), on December 19, 1995. Region IV has informed EDO/NRR/PA.

This information herein has been discussed with the licensee and is current as of 1:10 p.m. (CST), on December 19, 1995.

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