

PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION OF EVENT OR UNUSUAL OCCURRENCE PNO-V-92-15 Date: 5/4/92

This preliminary notification constitutes Early notice of events of POSSIBLE safety or public interest significance. The information presented is a initially received without verification or evaluation and is basically all that is known by Region V staff on this date.

FACILITY: Palo Verde Nuclear Generating
Station, Unit 3
Wintersburg, Arizona

Emergency Classification
 Unusual Event
 Alert
 Site Area Emergency
 General Emergency
 Not Applicable

SUBJECT: LOSS OF CONTROL ROOM PANEL ANNUNCIATOR WINDOWS AND AUDIT ALARMS

At approximately 4:30 a.m. PDT on May 4, 1992, Palo Verde 3 Nuclear Generating Station Unit 3, experienced a loss of all control room annunciator windows and audible alarms, plus the Core Operating Limits Supervisory System (COLSS). The plant was operating at 100% power. The plant computer provided alarm indication on a line printer and CRT in the control room. Due to the loss of COLSS, a controlled plant power reduction was initiated at 5:00 a.m. from 100% to 75% power as required by Technical Specifications. At 8:19 a.m. PDT the plant computer became inoperable, and the licensee declared an ALERT.

This event was initiated at approximately 4:30 a.m. PDT when technicians, that were performing corrective maintenance in the control room, short circuited a 24 VDC supply line to a 480 VAC supply. The resulting voltage transient caused a loss of control room annunciator windows and audio alarms. Digital and analog plant parameter indications remain available in the Control Room. The licensee is maintaining additional staff in the control room to assist with plant operations and event response. The licensee is minimizing plant maneuvering and maintaining the plant stable, and have stopped all unnecessary maintenance and surveillance activities.

NRC resident inspectors are in the control room monitoring plant status. As of 8:28 a.m. PDT, Region V, after discussion with senior management at AEOD and NRR, staffed the Regional Incident Response Center and has entered into the Increased Regional Monitoring Mode.

A briefing of Commissioner Assistants and other NRC Headquarters personnel was conducted by Region V at 10:30 a.m. PDT.

The licensee is preparing a press release.

This information is current as of 10:30 a.m. PDT, on May 4, 1992.

CONTACT: H. Wong (510) 975-0200 or FTS 448-0200

DISTRIBUTION BY 5520:

Date: 5/4/92 Time: 11:15 am

Comm. Rogers	EDO	R1
Comm. Curtiss	AEOD	R11
Comm. Remick	SLITP	R111
Comm. de Planque	NRR	R1V
OCA	NMSS	
OGC	IRM	
OE	RES	

FAX TO:

Date: 5/4/92 Time: 11:20 am

The Chairman
ACRS
OIG
OCAA
OPA
LICENSEE
INPO
NSAC
RESIDENT INSPECTOR
HQS. OPERATIONS OFFICER
PDR (202) 6343343

MAIL TO:

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