

February 7, 1996

PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION OF EVENT OR UNUSUAL OCCURRENCE PNO-II-96-006A

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 II staff in Atlanta, Georgia on this date.

Facility

Duke Power Co.  
Catawba 2  
York, South Carolina  
Dockets: 50-414

Licensee Emergency Classification

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

Subject: LOSS OF OFFSITE POWER

Catawba Unit 2 continues recovery actions following the loss of both main transformers and a trip from 100 percent power event which occurred at approximately 12:30 p.m. on February 6, 1996. Unit 2 is proceeding toward cold shutdown with Mode 4 Hot Shutdown achieved at 4:45 a.m. on February 7, 1996. An electrical cross connect from Unit 1 is supplying power to Unit 2 emergency busses and both 2A and 2B emergency diesel generators are in standby. Decay heat continues to be removed by the 2A and 2B motor driven auxiliary feed water pumps with a current cooldown rate of approximately 20 degrees F. per hour. Containment pressure remains slightly above TS limits.

The licensee's preliminary evaluation indicates the loss of both Unit 2 main transformers was due to water leakage into the potential transformers from melting ice. Repairs are underway to the Unit 2 B main transformer in order to restore one train of offsite power.

The NRC continues to monitor recovery actions closely. Resident Inspectors continue to provide support onsite and the RII Incident Response Center remains staffed and in the monitoring mode.

The States of South and North Carolina, as well as York, Mecklenburg, and Gaston counties, are being updated by the licensee on four-hour intervals on the progress of recovery actions.

This information is current as of 7:00 a.m. on February 7, 1996.

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