

July 31, 1992

PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION OF EVENT OR UNUSUAL OCCURRENCE -- PNO-IV-92-032

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 IV staff on this date.

FACILITY:
Nebraska Public Power District
Cooper Nuclear Station
50-298

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

SUBJECT: SHUTDOWN REQUIRED BY TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS

At 5:30 p.m. (CDT) on July 30, 1992, the licensee declared a Notification of Unusual Event because of a Technical Specification required shutdown of the plant. During a review of the previously completed loss-of-coolant accident analysis, performed as part of the licensee's ongoing design basis reconstitution (DBR) program, the licensee discovered that TS 3.5.F.3 for low-pressure core cooling systems could not be met, and as a result, the licensee entered TS 1.0.J, which requires that the plant be placed in hot shutdown within 6 hours.

In 1976, the licensee performed a modification to remove the low pressure coolant injection (LPCI) loop select logic. At the time the modification was installed, a single-failure analysis was performed and it was determined that the loss of the operability of one LPCI injection valve continued to be the worst case single failure. With this single failure, during a loss of offsite power and a loss-of-coolant accident, two low pressure core cooling pumps would be available, which is required by the design basis of the plant to meet the requirements of 10 CFR 50.46.

When the licensee reevaluated the worst case failure, as part of the DBR program, it was identified that the loss of a 125-Vdc bus was now the worst case single failure. When this single failure was applied, the licensee determined that only one low pressure core cooling pump would be available; therefore, the plant was outside of the design basis.

General Electric performed an analysis, based on the availability of only one low pressure core cooling pump, and determined that the plant would be within its design basis if power was limited to 75 percent. Based on this analysis, the licensee declared the low pressure cooling systems operable and exited the Notification of Unusual Event at 10:30 p.m. (CDT). At the time the licensee declared the systems operable, plant power had been reduced to 55 percent.

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The licensee, as a conservative measure, has placed an administrative limit of 60 percent on plant power and has instituted compensatory measures to closely monitor the status of the 125-Vdc busses and the availability of low pressure core cooling systems. The licensee is currently evaluating modifications to the plant that will allow it to resume full power operation. It has been estimated that installation of a modification may take from 2 days up to 1 month.

The licensee/NRC has not issued a press release.

Neither the licensee nor the NRC plans to issue a press release.

The state of Nebraska and Missouri will be informed.

Region IV received notification of this occurrence by telecon from the licensee at 5:45 p.m. (CDT). Region IV has informed EDO/NRR/PA.

This information has been confirmed with a licensee representative.

CONTACT: Phillip H. Harrell (817)860-8250.

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					or 964-1166)