

March 8, 1985

PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION OF EVENT OR UNUSUAL OCCURRENCE PNO-II-85-12C

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 II staff on this date.

FACILITY: Alabama Power Company  
Farley Unit 2  
Docket No. 50-364  
Dothan, Alabama

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

SUBJECT: CONTAINMENT VERTICAL TENDON DEGRADATION - UPDATE

This PN updates PNO-II-85-12, PNO-II-85-12A and PNO-II-85-12B, issued on January 29, January 31 and February 27.

Alabama Power Company is returning Farley Unit 2 to service today, ending an extended refueling outage during which the licensee inspected and repaired containment building tendon field anchors. This inspection activity began after a broken field anchor was found on January 28 during a wal. down before a scheduled integrated leak rate test. The outage began January 4.

Since January 28, all vertical field anchors have been visually inspected. The licensee has reported that a sufficient sample of the dome and hoop field anchors has been checked to provide 95 percent confidence that all those components have no visible cracks.

The inspection found three failed vertical tendon field anchors. In addition, magnetic particle testing of disassembled tendon anchors revealed that eight field anchors had hydrogen stress cracking. All failed and cracked anchor heads were replaced. Enough wires were salvaged from the single failed vertical tendon which was found on January 28 to tension it to about 60 percent of design strength. A structural integrity evaluation by Bechtel Corporation, the licensee's architect-engineer, has concluded that the containment could meet all functional requirements through its 40-year design life without the support of at least 20 tendons.

An integrated leak rate test of the containment was satisfactorily completed on March 5. Scheduled for completion within three months are magnetic particle testing both of unexamined vertical tendon field anchors and of any horizontal or dome tendon anchors which visibly display any significant moisture.

A similar inspection program is scheduled for Farley Unit 1, which is scheduled to shut down for refueling on April 5. An earlier visual check in the Unit 1 containment found no broken field anchors.

Both the resident inspectors and specialist inspectors from Region II have been monitoring Alabama Power's follow-up on this issue. Region II has been keeping IE, NRR and other regions advised.

The State of Alabama has been informed.

This information is current as of 2 p.m. today.

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PDR I&E  
PNO-II-85-012C PDR

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