

March 21, 1985

PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION OF EVENT OR UNUSUAL OCCURRENCE PNO-II-85-29

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: Tennessee Valley Authority
Browns Ferry Units 1, 2, & 3
Docket No's: 50-259/261/296
Athens, Alabama

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

SUBJECT: SHUTDOWN GREATER THAN 48 HOURS

Unit 1 was manually scrammed from 44 percent power on March 19 as part of a controlled shutdown required by technical specifications after the licensee identified that the High Pressure Coolant Injection (HPCI) turbine exhaust valve had failed a Local Leak Rate Test (LLRT) on March 17. The licensee has also reported a failure on the Reactor Core Isolation Cooling (RCIC) turbine exhaust valve. (See March 18 and March 19 Region II Daily Report).

The Unit 3 RCIC turbine exhaust valve failed an LLRT on March 19. Unit 3 is currently shut down to investigate a problem associated with reactor water level instrumentation.

The licensee will repair Unit 1 and Unit 3 turbine exhaust valves prior to restart.

TVA has also identified the fact that two valves in each of the three Units, the RCIC vacuum pump discharge valve and the HPCI turbine exhaust drain valve, cannot be local leak rate tested because they do not have a double gasket that would allow testing of the bonnet seal. During the last Integrated Leak Rate Test (ILRT) at each unit, no bonnet leakage from these valves was identified.

The NRC staff is reviewing necessary actions associated with these valves prior to restart.

Unit 2 is currently down for refueling and is scheduled to restart in July.

Media interest is not expected.

The State of Alabama has been informed.

The NRC received initial notification of this event by telephone from the licensee to the headquarters Incident Response Center on March 19 at 3:05 a.m. (EST).

This information is current at of 8:00 a.m. (EST) on March 21.

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