

DCS No: 50387841018
Date: October 23, 1984

PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION OF EVENT OR UNUSUAL OCCURRENCE--PNO-I-84-87a

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 I staff on this date.

Facility: Pennsylvania Power & Light Co.	Licensee Emergency Classification:
Berwick, PA	___ Notification of Unusual Event
Susquehanna Steam Electric	___ Alert
Station	___ Site Area Emergency
Unit 1 (DN 50-387)	___ General Emergency
	<u>X</u> Not Applicable

Subject: INOPERABLE SCRAM DISCHARGE VOLUME - UPDATE

(NOTE: PNO-I-84-87 incorrectly stated that the licensee discovered on October 19, 1984 that surveillance on the Scram Discharge Volume vent and drain valves was overdue. The correct date on which the licensee made this discovery was October 18, 1984).

The licensee has determined that the slow response time of a Scram Discharge Volume vent valve was due to an insufficient air bleed-off rate through the vent valve's solenoid pilot valve. The vent valve closes upon loss of air pressure due to actuation of the pilot solenoid valve, and the closure time is therefore related to the rate at which the pilot valve discharges air. In order to correct the the problem, the licensee replaced the T-ASCO pilot solenoid valve with a larger VALCOR dual- solenoid pilot valve having a larger vent port and faster air bleed-off rate. Testing on the evening of Saturday, October 20, 1984, following the pilot valve replacement, demonstrated that the vent valve would close in less than six seconds after pilot valve de-energization; sufficiently below the Technical Specification (TS) limit of 30 seconds. Based on these test results and discussions with the licensee, Region I gave PP&L the permission to restart Unit 1 at approximately 9:30 p.m. on October 20, 1984.

At 1:29 p.m. on October 21, 1984, the licensee completed the required TS surveillance by manually scrambling the reactor, from power. An emergency TS change had been processed by the NRC Office of NRR on October 19, 1984 to remedy the "Catch 22" situation that existed. The vent valve closure time for that subsequent surveillance test was 5.2 seconds. There is no apparent relation between this event and the T-ASCO scram solenoid valve problems described in earlier PNs (PNO-I-84-83, 83a, and 83b).

The Commonwealth of Pennsylvania has been informed.

CONTACT: J. Strosnider R. Jacobs/L. Plisco
 8-488-1128 8-717-542-2134

8410250099 841023
PDR I&E
PNO-I-84-087A PDR

JE: 3/4 dl

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Licensee: _____
(Reactor Licensees)

Region I Form 83
(Rev. July, 1984)