February 11, 1985

PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION OF EVENT OR UNUSUAL OCCURRENCE PNO-II-85-13

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: Mississippi Power & Light Company
Grand Gulf Unit 1
Docket No. 50-416
Port Gibson, Mississippi

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

SUBJECT: MAIN STEAM ISOLATION VALVE PROBLEMS

The Unit tripped from 48 percent power at 7:50 a.m. (CST) on February 10 when a low condenser vacuum occurred while switching over steam jet air ejectors. As the licensee was manually shutting main steam isolation valves (MSIVs) to limit plant cool down, two outboard and one inboard MSIV failed to shut on the first attempt. Subsequent "slow closure" attempts were, however, successful.

The licensee has attributed the problem to the MSIV air solenoid valves and is presently replacing them on all MSIVs. The licensee is evaluating the specific cause of the solenoid valve failures.

Media interest may occur. The licensee will respond to media inquiries.

The State of Mississippi has been informed.

The NRC received initial notification of this event by telephone from the licensee to the headquarters incident response center on February 10 at 11:31 a.m. (EST)

This information is current as of 1:00 p.m. on February 11.

Contact: R. Carroll 242-5543 V. Panciera 242-5525

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