

May 31, 1996

PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION OF EVENT OR UNUSUAL OCCURRENCE PNO-III-96-034

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 Region III staff (Lisle, Illinois) on this date.

Facility
Cleveland Electric Illuminating Co.
Perry 1
Perry, Ohio
Dockets: 50-440

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

Subject: REACTOR SCRAM CAUSED BY TRANSFORMER FAILURE

At 6:15 a.m. (EDT) on May 30, 1996, the reactor shut down automatically (scrammed) following a balance-of-plant (non-nuclear) transformer fault which led to a lockout of the plant's auxiliary transformer. The plant's offsite power supply shifted to the Unit 2 startup transformer.

The initiating event was a fault on a transformer supplying power from the auxiliary transformer to non-safety-related systems in the plant. A circuit breaker opened between the faulted transformer and the auxiliary transformer.

Although the breaker opened, a fault still occurred on the auxiliary transformer leading to the auxiliary transformer lockout. This in turn led to the reactor scram.

All safety systems functioned as designed during the reactor shutdown. The plant continues to be powered from the Unit 2 startup transformer. (The Unit 2 startup transformer is dedicated as a Unit 1 alternate offsite power source. Unit 2 is a partially completed plant.) The three emergency diesel generators have been tested and are available should they be needed.

The licensee expects repairs to take about 3 weeks to complete. Transformers from Unit 2 will likely be used as replacements. The Unit 1 startup transformer is currently offsite for repairs and is expected to be returned about early August.

There has been local news media interest in the shutdown. The State of Ohio will be notified of the shutdown. The information in this preliminary notification has been reviewed with licensee management.

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The licensee notified the NRC Operations Center of this event at 8:26 a.m. (EDT) on May 30, 1996. This information is current as of 11 a.m. on May 31, 1996.

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