

PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION OF EVENT OR UNUSUAL OCCURRENCE PN19275

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:
Public Service Electric & Gas Co.
Salem 2
Hancocks Bridge, New Jersey

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

Docket No.: 50-311
License No.: NONE
Event No.: 24752
Event Location Code: POW

Subject: AUGMENTED INSPECTION TEAM DISPATCHED TO SALEM UNIT 2 TO
REVIEW FAILURE OF THE ANNUNCIATOR SYSTEM TO FUNCTION AS
DESIGNED

At 9:26 p.m. on 12/13/92, a reactor control room operator at Salem Unit 2 noticed an alarm being printed out on the auxiliary alarm typewriter in the Unit 2 control room. This typewriter records alarms and interfaces with the control room alarm annunciation system, which activates the overhead annunciator (OHA) indicators to alert operators of off-normal operating and equipment parameters. The operator noted that the related OHA was not illuminated when the auxiliary alarm typewriter was printing. Upon investigation, the operators determined that the central processing unit (CPU) for the OHAs had apparently failed to perform since 7:45 p.m., according to the time clock associated with the CPU. The operators performed a manual reset of the affected CPU, and the system returned to normal operation. The OHA had failed "as is", that is, no change in indicated alarm conditions occurred from 7:45 to 9:26 p.m.

The loss of OHA system updating for one hour and 41 minutes satisfied the licensee's criteria for an Alert declaration (loss of the OHAs for a sustained 15 minutes), but since the problem was corrected in less than three minutes from the time of discovery, the licensee elected not to declare an Alert. On 12/14/92, the licensee did make a 10CFR50.72 report to inform NRC to report a major loss of assessment capability that was associated with the failure of the annunciator system.

The involved CPU is part of a new OHA system installed at Salem Unit 2 during the unit's last refueling outage in early 1992. An identical system was installed at Salem Unit 1 during that unit's last refueling outage in mid-1992. The system was supplied by the Beta Computer Company, Dallas, Texas. The licensee has performed functional tests to assure themselves of the system's current operability and is continuing their investigation into the event. The vendor is expected on-site on 12/15/92.

The resident inspector was informed of the event on the morning of 12/14/92. NRC management determined that the condition warranted review and evaluation by an Augmented Inspection Team (AIT). Accordingly, some members of the AIT were dispatched on 12/14/92; and the remaining members are expected to be on-site by 12/15/92. The AIT will include representatives from Region I, NRR and AEOD. The team leader is William Ruland, a Section Chief in DRS, Region I.

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PDR I&E
PNO-I-92-075 PDR

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DCS No: 50311921213
Date: December 15, 1992

-2-

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The State of New Jersey was informed of the AIT. In accordance with the existing Memoranda of Understanding (MOU), the State of New Jersey is sending an observer.

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Comm. Rogers	IRM				
Comm. Curtiss	OIG**				NRC Ops Ctr** _____
Comm. Remick					
Comm. de Planque					INPO** <u>12:31 pm</u>
OCAA					NSAC <u>12:30 pm</u>
OIP					

	<u>Phillips</u>	
OCA	EDO	ACRS**
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OPA	NRR** (Phone Verif: A. Byrdsong 964-1168 or 964-1166)	
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RI Resident Office 12:33 pm

EWV
OIG

Licensee: 12:37 pm
(Reactor Licensees)

General list for sending PNs by FAX

Region I Form 83
(Rev. November 1992)