

February 6, 1980

PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION OF EVENT OR UNUSUAL OCCURRENCE PNO-II-80-37

This preliminary notification constitutes EARLY notice of an event of POSSIBLE safety or public interest significance. The information presented is as initially received without verification or evaluation and is basically all that is known by IE staff as of this date

FACILITY: Florida Power Corporation
Crystal River 3
Docket No. 50-302
Crystal River, Florida

SUBJECT: CAUSE OF CRYSTAL RIVER TRANSIENT DETERMINED

The licensee, during investigation into the cause of the February 26 transient on the Crystal River 3 facility has established the source of the power failure in the Non Nuclear Instrumentation (NMI) system. A mismatched set of connector pins were found on a printed circuit board. This board acts as an extension between the contacts mounted in the electrical cabinet and solid state electronic subsystems (buffers) used in control and indicator circuits. The particular buffer involved was one installed approximately one month ago, and used as part of one of the subcooling meters at the plant. The investigation indicates the mismatching occurred at the time of original installation. The particular subcooling meter involved has performed erratically since that installation. Repeated attempts to reenergize the power supplies during the transient are presumed to have melted the conducting ribbon on the board and cleared the fault. Further investigation has found a similar mismatched connector pin set on another buffer, but this mismatching had not resulted in a short.

The generic aspects of this type installation fault are under active review by the NRC staff. The investigation by the licensee into the mechanism which led to the short circuit at a time after installation is continuing.

The licensee plans to issue a press release. The NRC does not plan to issue a press release. The State of Florida has been informed.

Region II (Atlanta) received notification of this occurrence by telephone from NRC onsite personnel at 12:00 p.m. on March 6, 1980.

Contact: R. Martin, RII 242-5534; D. Quick, RII 242-5553

Distribution: Transmitted H. St.

Chairman Ahearne
Commissioner Bradford
Commissioner Gilinsky
Commissioner Hendrie
Commissioner Kennedy
ACRS

S. J. Chilk, SECY
C. C. Kammerer, CA
(For Distribution)

Transmitted: MREB
W. J. Dircks, EDO
C. Michelson, AEOD
J. J. Fouchard, PA
W. M. Eller, MPA
E. G. Ryan, OSP
E. K. Shapar, ELD

Phillips
H. E. Denton, NRR
R. C. DeYoung, NRR
R. J. Mattson, NRR
D. Vassallo, NRR
D. Eisenhut, NRR
Willste
J. G. Davis, NRRS
S. Levine, SES

XOOS 3:19 (IE:HQ Dist.)

Landow (6 min./page)
J. J. Cummings, OIA

MAIL
R. Minogue, SD
XOOS

Other Regional Offices _____
(Time)

PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION

POOR ORIGINAL

8003250060