

July 20, 1988

PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION OF EVENT OR UNUSUAL OCCURRENCE PNO-II-88-43A

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: Carolina Power & Light Company
Brunswick Units 1 & 2
Docket Nos. 50-325 & 50-324
Southport, North Carolina

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

SUBJECT: AUGMENTED INSPECTION TEAM AT BRUNSWICK

This is an update to PNO-II-88-43, issued on July 15, 1988.

The Augmented Inspection Team that was dispatched to the Brunswick Nuclear Power Plant at 2:00 p.m. (EDT) on July 15, 1988, is currently reviewing the events and associated licensee corrective actions for the equipment failures that were encountered during the recent shutdown of Unit 1. With respect to the five identified shutdown problems, all repairs were completed on July 16, but some testing remained. The control rod reed switch which inhibited rod sequence control system operation during shutdown will be bypassed when necessary, in that repairs cannot be conducted until an outage to support work on the effected control rod drive mechanism can be taken. The rod worth minimizer (RWM), which was inoperable at the start of the shutdown, underwent replacement of a 6 volt power supply. Final testing of the RWM is being performed in conjunction with startup surveillance testing. The F017B valve was found to have sustained damage to the motor/handwheel engagement clutch mechanism. The repairs have been completed and the F017A valve was inspected with no observed damage. The condenser circulating water pumps were found to have their traveling screens clogged by very small "skeleton" shrimp, that blocked the circulating water flow over a 2-3 minute time frame. The effected screens have been replaced with ones with wider mesh. Unit 2, which had been run back in power to 40% when 3 of its 4 condenser circulating water pumps tripped off line, was returned to 100% power on July 16. The F042 valve problem was traced to a recent inadequate maintenance inspection of a limit switch. The determined limit switch problem was repaired and 22 other valves were inspected for similar problems. No additional defects were identified.

Based on a cumulative history of equipment problems, specific management commitments were made by CP&L to the NRC. On July 18, NRC concurred on restart of Unit 1. The Unit is still in hot shutdown, conducting surveillance testing. AIT members are assisting the resident inspection staff in conducting 24-hour site coverage.

Unit 2 was scheduled to shut down today to affect repairs on its F006 high pressure coolant injection valve. However, CP&L expressed concerns regarding perceived power demands on the grid and requested a four-day extension to the 14 day HPCI Limiting Condition for Operation. RII has granted this extension, with NRR concurrence, until July 23, 1988.

Both the licensee and the NRC are prepared to respond to media inquiries.

This information is current as of 8:00 a.m. (EDT) on July 20, 1988.

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PDR I&E
PNO-II-88-043A PNU

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5520: 7/20/88 @ 9:20 a.m. TO REGIONS AND HQ

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