

PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION OF EVENT OR UNUSUAL OCCURRENCE -- PNO-IV-88-75

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 IV staff on this date.

FACILITY: Gulf States Utilities
River Bend Station
DN: 50-458

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

SUBJECT: OUTAGE GREATER THAN 2 DAYS

On September 6, 1988, at 6:06 a.m. (CDT) the reactor scrambled from 100 percent power. The main generator tripped because of a loss of a normal station transformer (believed to have been caused by a cat crawling into the transformer). This resulted in a turbine trip and reactor scram. Although the vessel water level does not appear to have dropped to the HPCS and RCIC initiation setpoint (Level 2), the HPCS and RCIC pumps started and injected briefly as occurred during the reactor trip of August 25, 1988 (PNO-IV-88-70). However, unlike the August 25 trip, there was no indication of backleakage into the HPCS injection line. The licensee declared a NOUE because of the HPCS and RCIC system initiation. The licensee secured from the NOUE at 7:30 a.m. All station transformer transfers, from normal to preferred, occurred as expected. Reactor pressure is being controlled by the bypass valves and level maintained utilizing one reactor feed pump and the startup regulating valve. Reactor shutdown is expected to exceed 72 hours.

Neither the licensee nor the NRC plans to issue a press release.

The state of Louisiana has been informed.

Region IV received notification of this occurrence by telephone from the headquarters duty officer.

This information has been confirmed with a licensee representative.

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