

February 22, 1988

PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION OF EVENT OR UNUSUAL OCCURRENCE -- PNO-IV-88-13A

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
St. Francisville, Louisiana
DN: 50-458

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

SUBJECT: SHUTDOWN IN EXCESS OF 48 HOURS

This PN updates PNO-IV-88-13, issued on February 19, 1988.

The licensee entered an anticipated 7-day outage on February 19, 1988, to investigate and repair the 'A' reactor recirculation pump motor which had tripped on an over-current condition while the plant was at 100% power. The licensee determined that moisture in the pump motor cable conduit was the source of the ground to the pump motor. After effecting repairs to the electrical terminations on the 'A' reactor recirculation pump motor and other unrelated maintenance, the licensee commenced a reactor startup.

On February 21, 1988, at 10:26 p.m. (CST) with the reactor at 4 percent power, a reactor scram occurred during shell warming of the main turbine. The licensee allowed turbine first stage pressure during the warm up to exceed a pressure equivalent to that at 40 percent power. With the turbine tripped and turbine first stage pressure greater than the equivalent at 40 percent power, an automatic reactor scram occurs.

The licensee has added a caution in the turbine startup procedure regarding the possibility of a reactor scram because of turbine first stop pressure during shell warming. Reactor startup is expected to commence during the day shift on February 22, 1988. The senior resident inspector is monitoring the licensee's actions.

There have been no news media inquiries regarding this matter.

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

The state of Louisiana will be informed.

Region IV received notification of this occurrence by telephone from the Senior Resident Inspector at 7:30 a.m. (CST) on February 22, 1988. Region IV has informed NRR.

This information has been confirmed with a licensee representative.

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2/22/88 - 12.4/88