

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 III staff on this date.

Facility: Commonwealth Edison Company
LaSalle Unit 1
Marseilles, IL 61341

Docket No. 50-373

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

Subject: REACTOR TRIP; ARCING IN BUSS BARS FROM UNIT AUXILIARY TRANSFORMER

At 1:52 p.m. (CST), March 19, 1987, with the unit at 54 percent power, the generator shutdown, tripping the turbine and causing a reactor scram. All systems functioned as designed.

The generator shutdown was caused by a fault in the 6.9 kilovolt and 4160 volt lines from the unit auxiliary transformer to in-house busses located next to the Turbine Building. (The cause of the fault is still under investigation.)

The transformer automatically tripped to isolate the affected busswork and the transformer deluge system activated. The fault also caused arcing and burning of the busses. The site fire brigade was summoned and verified that the fire had been extinguished by 2:13 p.m. No offsite fire department was required. No injuries were reported. Initial damage repairs were expected to take about four days. A time estimate for complete repair has not been determined. (Unit 2 was not affected by this incident.)

Region III (Chicago) is following the licensee's course of action.

The State of Illinois will be notified.

Region III was first informed of this event at 3:30 p.m. (CST), March 19, 1987. This information is current as of 11:50 a.m. (CST), March 20, 1987.

MR
CONTACT: M. Ring
FTS 388-5602

RFW
R. Warnick
FTS 388-5575

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