

PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION OF EVENT OR UNUSUAL OCCURRENCE PNO-I-99-033

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 Region I staff in King of Prussia, Pennsylvania on this date.

Facility

Duquesne Light Co.  
Beaver Valley 2  
Shippingport, Pennsylvania  
Dockets: 50-412

Licensee Emergency Classification

Notification of Unusual Event  
Alert  
Site Area Emergency  
General Emergency  
X Not Applicable

Subject: BEAVER VALLEY UNIT 2 FORCED OUTAGE

On July 17 at 8:21 p.m., operators initiated a technical specification (TS) required plant shutdown from 64 percent reactor power due to an inoperable emergency diesel generator (EDG) which could not be restored within the technical specification allowable outage time of 72 hours. EDG 2-2 had been declared inoperable at 9:57 p.m. on July 14 due to zebra mussels and asiatic clams fouling the EDG heat exchanger. On July 16, EDG 2-2 was run at full load as a post maintenance test following corrective maintenance to address the heat exchanger fouling.

At 5:29 p.m. on July 16, an apparent electrical fault occurred during the EDG full load test, which opened the supply breaker between the emergency and normal 4 kilovolt (KV) busses. Operators observed degraded 2DF emergency 4 kv bus voltage and manually opened the EDG output breaker which de-energized the 2DF electrical bus. The loss of 2DF bus resulted in temporarily interruption of reactor coolant pump seal injection flow, two inoperable 125 volt station battery chargers, the eventual inoperability of the two associated 125 volt station batteries, and initiation of a TS 3.0.3 required plant shutdown from 100 percent reactor power.

Operators re-energized the 2DF bus from the normal 4kv bus supply, restored battery and battery charger operability and terminated the plant shutdown at 10:18 p.m. The plant was maintained at approximately 65 percent reactor power while technicians investigated the cause of the electrical fault. Station personnel were unable to conclusively identify the cause of the fault and on July 17 initiated a TS required plant shutdown. Unit 2 went off-line on July 18 at 1:13 a.m., achieved hot standby at 2:06 a.m. and cold shutdown at 5:21 p.m.

Station personnel intend to resolve and correct the electrical fault which led to the loss of the 2DF bus prior to unit restart. A restart date has not been announced.

The NRC residents observed operator response to the loss of emergency bus event and portions of the plant shutdown. The resident inspectors and two region based specialists are onsite to monitor plant status and licensee activities.

The contents of this PN have been communicated to the Pennsylvania, Ohio

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and West Virginia state governments.

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