

August 3, 1999

PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION OF EVENT OR UNUSUAL OCCURRENCE

PNO-IV-99-032

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 IV staff in Arlington, Texas on this date.

Facility

Entergy Operations, Inc.
Waterford 3
Killona, Louisiana
Dockets: 50-382

Licensee Emergency Classification

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

Subject: PLANT SHUTDOWN DUE TO REACTOR COOLANT PUMP SEAL FAILURE

On August 1 at 9:49 p.m. (CDT), Waterford 3 operators manually tripped the reactor from 100 percent power in response to indications of a failure of the Reactor Coolant Pump 2B seal. Operators observed a loss of Reactor Coolant Pump 2B controlled bleedoff flow which resulted in a high seal temperature. Plant procedures required that the reactor be manually tripped in response to the failed seal. The pump was secured immediately following the plant shutdown. The senior resident inspector responded to the site and verified that operator actions were appropriate and that plant equipment functioned as expected following the reactor trip.

The licensee has cooled down the plant to Mode 5, cold shutdown, and plans to lower water level in the reactor coolant system to reduced inventory conditions, and replace the reactor coolant pump seal. The resident inspectors will monitor licensee activities.

The state of Louisiana will be informed.

Region IV received notification of this occurrence by telephone from the Senior Resident Inspector on August 1, 1999, at 10:05 p.m. Region IV has informed the OEDO, NRR, and PA.

This information has been discussed with the licensee and is current as of August 3, 1999, at 9 a.m.

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