

Duane Arnold Energy Center Loss of Offsite Power Due to Derecho

May 27, 2021



- Duane Arnold Overview
- Summary of the Event
- Insights



DAEC Overview

- GE BWR/4 Mark I Containment
- Rated Thermal Power 1,912 MW(t)
- Rated Net Electric Power ~615 MW(e)





Plant status prior to event

- Plant Status on August 10, 2020
 - Reactor Power approximately 80% due to surveillance testing on LPCI
 - Diesel Driven Fire Pump inoperable due to maintenance
 - Dry cask storage campaign under way in the spent fuel pool
- Weather Forecast for August 10, 2020
 - National Weather Service Storm Prediction Center issued Moderate Risk Outlook
 - At 11:38 the National Weather Service Issued a Severe Thunderstorm Watch for the DAEC area which was upgraded to a Severe Thunderstorm Warning at 12:02



Detailed Event Summary

• August 10 – 12:30 to 12:35

- High sustained winds cause perturbation in the power lines feeding DAEC
- At 12:35 voltage drop is significant enough to automatically start the diesel generators, but they did not tie on to their respective buses as offsite power was still available

• August 10 – 12:49

- Sustained high winds damage all power lines leading to the plant causing a loss of offsite power
- The plant responded as designed
 - -- The reactor tripped and all control rods fully insert
 - -- Emergency Diesel Generators (already operating) automatically connect to and power their respective essential buses
 - -- Operators enter their emergency response procedures
- Notice of Unusual Event Reported to the NRC



Detailed Event Summary

- August 10 13:00 to 24:00
 - Operations establishes a controlled cooldown to begin shutdown cooling
 - Emergency Service Water strainer differential pressure alarm in Control Room
 - -- Operations bypassed strainer in accordance with station procedures
 - -- Emergency Service Water system stable operation throughout the event
 - Systems restored to facilitate plant reliability
 - -- Reactor Water Cleanup
 - -- Spent Fuel Pool Cooling
 - -- General Service Water
 - Coordinate with ITC to prepare Switchyard for repairs



Detailed Event Summary

- August 11 02:30
 - Operations established cold shutdown conditions
- August 11 11:26
 - 161kV Vinton line is restored to the switchyard restoring off-site power
 - Decision is made to perform a controlled evolution to restore power as the Emergency Diesel Generators are performing well
- August 11 12:15
 - Startup transformer is reenergized from offsite power
- August 11 13:12 to 13:24
 - Safety Bus A and B reenergized from offsite power
- August 11 16:00
 - Notice of Unusual Event Terminated



Insights

- There was never an impact to public health or safety
- The plant operated as designed when offsite power was lost
 - The loss of the cooling towers did not impact the ability to safely shut the plant down, decay heat removal maintained through the Cedar River
- Operators responded in accordance with plant procedures
- Plant achieved safe shutdown
- Subsequent actions
 - Assisted SRA and SRI with risk significance
 - Engaged owners group to provide insights for generic impact
 - Provided comments to NRC ASP report

