

October 26, 1999

**PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION OF EVENT OR UNUSUAL OCCURRENCE PNO-IV-99-048**

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.

<u>Facility</u>	<u>Licensee Emergency Classification</u>
Omaha Public Power District	Notification of Unusual Event
Ft Calhoun 1	X Alert
Fort Calhoun, Nebraska	Site Area Emergency
Dockets: 50-285	General Emergency
	Not Applicable

Subject: REPORT OF ALERT ENTRY AND EXIT

On October 26, 1999, Fort Calhoun Station operators reported an Alert because 4160 volt Vital Buses 1A3 and 1A4 were deenergized for approximately 2 minutes. The plant was in Mode 5 with the reactor vessel head removed and approximately 30 feet of water above the reactor core. Operations personnel were preparing to perform a surveillance test. The test procedure required the transfer of station lighting from 4160 volt vital Bus 1A3 (Train A) to vital Bus 1A4 (Train B).

During the transfer, both vital electrical buses deenergized when the feeder breakers from the 161 kV switchyard unexpectedly opened. Following the loss of power to both vital buses, operations personnel promptly placed the diesel generators in automatic and the diesel generators started and energized vital Buses 1A3 and 1A4. The diesel generators were not configured to start automatically, a normal configuration for the plant conditions at that time. Shutdown cooling was lost for approximately 2 minutes and restored when the diesel generators reenergized the vital buses. Shutdown cooling temperature remained at 103 degrees F during the 2-minute loss of cooling. Offsite power was restored to both vital Buses 1A3 and 1A4 approximately 30 minutes after the initial loss of power to the vital buses. Offsite power was available from the 345 kV switchyard throughout the entire event.

Electrical maintenance personnel have inspected electrical equipment inside and outside the plant and found no apparent failure. The licensee has formed a team of technical experts to determine the cause of the event. The team is currently focusing on a lockout relay that was discovered tripped and performs a fast transfer function during normal power operations. The resident inspector responded to the main control room during the event and is continuing to monitor plant conditions.

The States of Nebraska and Iowa will be informed.

Region IV received notification of this occurrence by telephone from the Headquarters Operations Office at 2:25 a.m. on October 26, 1999. Region IV has informed the EDO, NRR, and PA.

This information has been discussed with the licensee and is current as of 10 a.m. on October 26, 1999.

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