

PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION OF EVENT OR UNUSUAL OCCURRENCE PNO-II-06-005

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 II staff (Atlanta, Georgia) on this date.

Facility

Brunswick Steam Electric Plant
Unit 2
Southport, NC
Docket/License: 050000324/DPR-62

Licensee Emergency Classification

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

Subject: UNUSUAL EVENT DECLARED DUE TO LOSS OF OFFSITE POWER TO UNIT 2 4kV
EMERGENCY BUSES

At 1823 EST, Unit 2 was manually scrammed as a result of a loss of offsite power caused by a lockout its associated startup auxiliary transformer. Emergency Diesel Generators (EDGs) 3 and 4 auto-started and re-energized the affected electrical buses. EDGs 1 and 2 auto-started but did not tie to their respective buses as the buses remained powered from the Unit 1 Unit Auxiliary Transformer. At 1837 EST, an Unusual Event was declared based on Emergency Action Level (EAL) 06.01.01, "Inability to power either 4kV E bus from offsite power."

Unit 2 is currently stable in Mode 3, Hot Shutdown, with the main steam isolation valves closed. High pressure coolant injection is controlling reactor pressure and the control rod drive system is maintaining reactor vessel water level. All control rods fully inserted following the manual reactor scram. The licensee determined that no emergency facilities will be activated and that no offsite assistance is needed at this time. Plant safety systems responded as required. Initially the licensee reported that the control room emergency ventilation and alternate rod injection systems did not automatically initiate, but functioned properly when manually actuated. The licensee subsequently determined that these systems were not required to respond to the transient.

The licensee is in the process of restoring offsite power to Unit 2 by backfeeding through the Unit 2 Unit Auxiliary Transformer. This is expected to be completed by 1200 EST. In parallel, the licensee is attempting to restore the Unit 2 Startup Auxiliary Transformer to an operable condition.

At approximately 0400 EST, EDG 1 tripped on low lube oil pressure due to a high duplex strainer differential pressure. A preliminary inspection of a lube oil filter has revealed metal shavings/particles. The EDG is inoperable and this condition places Unit 1 in a 12 hour LCO action statement.

NRC inspectors responded to the site and monitored licensee activities from the control room. Regional and Headquarters staff maintained contact with the site to ensure appropriate actions were being completed. Region II is evaluating this event to determine if the criteria has been met to conduct an inspection of the circumstances surrounding the transient.

The State of North Carolina will be informed. The information in this preliminary notification has been reviewed with licensee management, and is current as of 1100 EST on Thursday, November 2, 2006. The event was reported to the NRC Operations Center at 1910 EST on November 1, 2006.

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