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June 14, 2011

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Information Security Reminder: OpE COMMs contain preliminary information in the interest of timely internal communication of operating experience. OpE COMMs may be pre-decisional and may contain sensitive information.

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**Joseph Giantelli** (6/23/2009 9:30:19 am)

Revised on 6/23/2009 3:17:40 pm

**San Onofre 3 - EDG Failed To Start During a Slow Start Sequence for Monthly Surveillance**

On Tuesday June 9, 2009, 3A emergency diesel generator failed to start during a "slow" start sequence. The licensee stated that the cause involves a degraded Direct Current (DC) power supply. The degraded output is apparently not stable and causes signals to be "rippled".

The residents are still reviewing this event for a performance deficiency. The licensee has restored the Unit 3 Train A emergency diesel generator after replacement of the DC annunciator power supplies. Based on previous internal OE the licensee informed the resident inspectors that they had been replacing the power supplies on a preventative maintenance interval of every 8-years, since the electrolytic capacitors were known to degrade over time. The electrolytic capacitors are part of the power supply AC filter circuit. According to the licensee, the failed power supplies (including capacitors), were last replaced about 4 years ago, in October 2005. The Turkey Point OE suggests every 10 year replacement.

On Saturday June 13, during the extent of condition evaluation, the licensee reported "minor" periodic DC voltage spikes on Unit 2 Train A emergency diesel generator. The Unit 2 Train A power supplies were reportedly replaced in April 2007. A successful fast start of the Unit 2 diesel generator was completed to demonstrate operability.

The licensee continues their evaluation to determine the adequacy of their preventative maintenance program. Resident inspectors will continue to follow up.

The licensee stated that there has been operating experience on DC power supply ripple affecting the speed switch associated with emergency diesel generators in the past,

specifically at V.C. Summer, Turkey Point, and Clinton. IOEB is evaluating this condition for generic applicability and possible screen into the Issue For Resolution process.

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