

August 29, 2012

PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION OF EVENT OR UNUSUAL OCCURRENCE -- PNO-IV-2012-006

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 the Region IV, Arlington, Texas, staff on this date.

Facility

WATERFORD 3
Taft, LA 77057
Docket 50-382 License No. NPF-38

RIVER BEND STATION
St. Francisville, LA 70775
Docket: 50-458 License No. NPF-47

GRAND GULF
Port Gibson, MS 39150
Docket 50-416, License No. NPF-29

Licensee Emergency Classification

☐ Notification of Unusual Event
☐ Alert
☐ Site Area Emergency
☐ General Emergency
☒ Not Applicable

SUBJECT: REGION IV RESPONSE TO HURRICANE/SEVERE WEATHER ON GULF COAST

DESCRIPTION:

Hurricane Isaac made first landfall near New Orleans, LA, Tuesday evening, August 28, 2012. Prior to landfall, the maximum sustained winds were approximately 80 mph with higher gusts as the storm continued to develop. Waterford Steam Electric Station Unit 3 in Taft, LA; River Bend Station in St. Francisville, LA; and Grand Gulf Nuclear Station near Port Gibson, MS, are in or near the projected storm path.

The NRC entered the Monitoring Mode at 6:08 p.m. CST and staffed its Region IV Incident Response Center to track the hurricane and monitor licensee activities. The inspection staffs at Grand Gulf, River Bend Station and Waterford 3 have been augmented with additional inspectors to monitor licensee response to the severe weather. The inspection staff will remain onsite to monitor plant conditions until the storm is no longer a threat.

Operators at Waterford 3 began powering down at 3 p.m. on August 28 as a precautionary measure in advance of the storm and remains shutdown. Both River Bend Station and Grand Gulf continue to operate at full power. Currently, no emergency declaration criterion has been met at any site.

As of 7:00 a.m. there has been no significant impacts at the reactor sites.

The States of Louisiana and Mississippi and FEMA Regions IV and VI have been informed. Region IV issued a press release.

This information was discussed with Entergy representatives and is accurate as of 9:00 a.m.

ADAMS ACCESSION NUMBER: ML12242A426

CONTACTS: Vince Gaddy
817-200-1144
Vince.gaddy@nrc.gov