

PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION

April 3, 2014

PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION OF EVENT OR UNUSUAL OCCURRENCE: PNO-III-14-004

This preliminary notification constitutes EARLY notice of events of POSSIBLE safety or public interest significance. Some of the information may not yet be fully verified or evaluated and is basically all that is known by the Region III staff on this date.

Facility

Perry Nuclear Power Plant
FirstEnergy Nuclear Operating Company
Perry, OH
Docket No.: 05000440
License No.: NPF-58

Licensee Emergency Classification

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

SUBJECT: PERRY NUCLEAR POWER PLANT NOTIFICATION OF UNUSUAL EVENT DUE TO TOXIC CHEMICAL LEAK

At 2:01 p.m. (EDT) on April 2, 2014, the Perry Nuclear Power Plant declared a Notification of Unusual Event (NOUE) after a chemical leak in the off-gas building resulted in an evacuation of the building and restricted normal access for plant personnel. The chemical, trichloroethylene (TCE), which readily evaporates and can be toxic, is used as a cooling agent in the building where radioactive gaseous releases from the plant pass through charcoal beds to remove some radioactive material. The chemical leaked from a valve that was undergoing maintenance. The licensee stopped the leak and began cleaning up areas in the off-gas building and an adjoining building where the chemical accumulated. The treatment of radioactive gaseous releases was not affected by the leak.

The NRC remained in normal mode. The resident inspectors were onsite at the start of the event and are monitoring plant actions and status. There was no impact to the reactor, which remained at full power.

The licensee will terminate the NOUE when cleanup activities have reduced the levels of TCE to allow normal access to the off-gas building. There were no injuries reported due to the leak and no offsite assistance was needed. The licensee notified the State of Ohio that the TCE released exceeded environmental limits.

The information in this preliminary notification is current as of 1:10 p.m. (EDT) on April 3, 2014. This information has been reviewed with plant management.

ADAMS Accession Number: ML14093A857

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