

DCS No: 50334850717
Date: July 25, 1985

PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION OF EVENT OR UNUSUAL OCCURRENCE--PNO-I-85-51A

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 I staff on this date.

Facility:
Duquesne Light Company
Beaver Valley Unit 1
Shippingport, PA
DN 50-334

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

Subject: POTENTIAL TAMPERING WITH DIESEL GENERATOR (UPDATE)

At about 1:00 a.m. on July 17, 1985, the No. 1 Diesel Generator (DG) failed its routine monthly surveillance test (would only accept 390 kw load; normal full load is 2850 kw). Subsequent licensee investigation disclosed that the Woodard governor load limit setting (knob) was set at 3 as compared to the normal setting of 10. As reported in PNO-I-85-51, licensee review was continuing including investigation of the changed load limit setting as a possible tampering act.

Subsequent licensee checks of other critical safety equipment disclosed no other abnormal conditions. Personnel interviews of persons entering the DG area subsequent to the last successful surveillance test did not identify any person(s) who had reason to or would admit changing the load limit setting. After contacts with the DG manufacturer and further evaluation of the DG Woodard governor controls, the licensee has concluded that, contrary to the earlier evaluation, the load limiter setting (knob) can be inadvertently changed with one motion with the DG in the normal standby condition if the fuel rack lever is in the full out position (a possible final position after the end of a surveillance test). It was noted that the No. 1 DG had received extensive cleaning during the time period between successive surveillance tests (3 men for 6 hours each). Although the possibility of a tampering act cannot be ruled out, the licensee believes the most probable explanation of the changed setting is that it was caused by an inadvertent act such as an accidental bumping during cleaning.

The Commonwealth of Pennsylvania has been notified.

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