

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 III staff on this date.

DMB

Facility: Detroit Edison Company
Fermi 2
Newport, MI 48166

Docket no: 50-341

Licensee Emergency Classification:
____ Notification of an Unusual Event
____ Alert
____ Site Area Emergency
____ General Emergency
XX Not Applicable *212*

Subject: FAILURE OF BACKUP REACTOR PROTECTION SYSTEM TRIP BREAKER

At 4:26 p.m. (CST), the licensee observed that a Division 1 backup manual Reactor Protection System (RPS) trip breaker did not trip as expected when the A bus of the RPS was transferred from the primary electrical supply to a backup source because of voltage fluctuations. (The circuit breaker is designed to trip automatically on undervoltage.) The unit has been shut down since October 1985.

Licensee personnel then pressed the manual trip button in the control room to actuate the trip breaker, and approximately 10 seconds later the breaker tripped. The breaker was then reset and the manual trip button pressed again. This time the breaker did not open. The licensee inserted a RPS manual scram on Division 1 in response to the backup breaker being inoperable.

The Resident Inspectors are reviewing the problem, and additional Region III (Chicago) personnel will be dispatched to the site as necessary. The licensee has agreed not to perform any maintenance or troubleshooting on the manual trip breaker without NRC authorization.

The State of Michigan will be notified.

Region III was notified of this incident at 7 p.m. (CST), March 16, 1986, by the Senior Resident Inspector. This information is current as of 9 a.m. (CST) March 17, 1986.

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Region III
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