

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.

Facility: Wisconsin Public Service Corp.
Kewaunee
Kewaunee, WI 54216

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

Docket No. 50-305

Subject: REACTOR TRIP CAUSED BY FAULT IN ELECTRICAL SYSTEM

At 1:48 p.m. on March 2, 1988, the reactor tripped automatically from 93 percent power as a result of a fault in an electrical distribution bus which provides power to the reactor coolant pumps and main feedwater pumps. All safety systems functioned as designed during the shutdown. The turbine room filled with smoke, but there was no fire. The plant will remain shut down for a 36-day refueling outage which had originally been scheduled to begin March 4. The reactor trip ended a 235-day period of continuous operation.

A similar fault on an electrical bus caused a reactor trip on July 10, 1987. Other electrical distribution bus problems occurred at Kewaunee in January 1980, November 1975, and April 1975.

The licensee is investigating the cause of the bus failure. Region III (Chicago) and the NRC Resident Inspector will monitor the licensee's evaluation and corrective actions.

The State of Wisconsin will be notified.

Region III was notified of this event about 3:35 p.m., March 2, 1988, by the Headquarters Operation Center. This information is current as of 10 a.m., March 3, 1988.

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