

To: Jim Mehl, ERU Supervisor
From: Zack Clayton, Rad Coord
Subject: April Monthly Report
Date: May 4, 2009

Beans:

Training:	0
Drills	1
Meetings:	2
Technical Assistance:	1
Public Assistance:	2

Web Page Hits: There were 51 RAD hits in April.

Coming Attractions:

Working Group	5/6
DB Evaluation	5/12
Piketon Briefing	5/20
MMRC Group	5/21

Facility Updates:

Davis Besse Nuclear Power Station

On April 4, Davis Besse powered down for planned maintenance on some plant systems. The plant was back on line April 22.

At 8:55 am on Thursday, April 30, an inadvertent activation of the Bay Township, Ottawa County EPZ sirens occurred. The root cause is under investigation but is believed to be a consequence of maintenance on the system. The Ottawa County sheriff's office received calls from the public regarding the siren activation. See event report 45032.

Perry Nuclear Power Plant

Perry plant started and ended April in a refueling outage. On

April 14 at 0743 the plant had a major loss of offsite communications capability. Due to an electrical loss caused by a failed inverter, the Perry plant lost the operability of the Emergency Response Data System (ERDS), the Safety Parameter Display System (SPDS), and the automatic mode of the Computer Aided Dose Assessment Program (CADAP). The plan has contingencies in place to perform the dose assessment functions manually and communicate parameters to offsite agencies verbally if necessary. The ERDS, SPDS, and CADAP functions were restored at 1110 on April 14.

The event was reported to the NRC in accordance with 10 CFR 50.72. See event notification 44989.

At 1730 on April 27, preparations for testing were being made when a jumper wire made contact with other conductors causing a fuse to blow. The blown fuse caused the closure of the suction valve to the residual heat removal (RHR) pump causing the pump to trip. This resulted in a loss of shutdown core cooling (Perry is still in its refueling outage). Alternate methods of cooling were made available as required. The blown fuse was replaced at 1816 and the B RHR pump was started at 1834. See event report 45025.

Beaver Valley Unit I

Beaver Valley Unit I entered a refueling shutdown April 20. This is the 19th refueling outage for this unit.

At 0115 on April 20, as Unit 1 was entering shutdown to support the upcoming refueling outage, there was a problem with the regulator valves for the "B" Steam Generator permitting the water level to rise. Attempts to manually regulate the water level were ineffective. The Steam Generator reached a set point indicating high water level and activated the Engineered Safety Feature (ESF). The automatic functions of the ESF successfully returned the water level to normal for shutdown. See event report 45000.

At 0135 on April 20, there was an unrelated unexpected start of the steam driven auxiliary feedwater pump. See event report 45001.

On April 23 at 1015 hrs, a visual inspection of the containment steel liner revealed a suspect area. After inspection and cleaning of the area, a 1 inch by 3/8 inch penetration through the approximately 3/8 inch carbon steel was identified. Behind the liner is the concrete containment structure that is approximately 3 feet thick. A rubber gap was placed over the area and the area must be repaired before the Unit is brought back on-line. See event report 45015.

On April 26 the Emergency Response Data System (ERDS) and the plant computer were removed from service for planned maintenance. The maintenance involved the cooling system for the air conditioning supply for the room in which the computers are located. See event report 45023.

On April 26, an ultrasonic test was performed on a 2 inch drain line used to drain a cooling loop in preparation for maintenance. The test revealed two possible flaws approximately 3/8 inches in length in the base material near a socket weld on a horizontal portion of the line. Repairs will be completed prior to reactor start-up. Similar 2 inch drain lines on the other loops have been inspected and show no indication of flaws. See event report 45022.

Beaver Valley Unit II

Beaver Valley Unit II operated at full power for April. There were no event reports.

Fermi II

Fermi started and ended April in a refueling outage.

On April 3, the SPDS and ERDS system was removed from service to support activities for a planned maintenance outage on the UPS vital bus power supply. Outage was anticipated at 24 hours. This system was returned to service on April 9. See event report 44968.

On April 11 Fermi discovered the Technical Support Center (TSC) emergency charcoal filter sample failed acceptance criteria. This made TSC ventilation unavailable. TSC ventilation supports RERP radiological habitability function and as such represents a major loss of emergency assessment capability, offsite response capability, or offsite communications capability. See event report 44984.

On April 19, Safety Parameter Display System (SPDS) and Emergency Response Data System (ERDS) were removed from service to support activities for a planned maintenance outage on the UPS vital bus power supply. The duration of work is expected to be approximately 24 hours. During this time, the majority of the Control Room indications remain available to the plant staff, and will be used for emergency response, if needed. See event report 44999.

During plant startup on April 29 at 2239 [EDT], the plant performed High Pressure Coolant Injection (HPCI) System flow testing against system head corresponding to reactor pressure. Fermi has 12 hours to perform this test after adequate reactor steam dome pressure and flow have been established for test performance. During the test, the test line pressure control valve did not properly operate to establish the required system head. The HPCI system was shutdown and returned to Standby. Investigation of this is ongoing. See event report 45035.

Portsmouth Gaseous Diffusion Plant

On April 14, there was a spill from a diesel fuel tank for a generator of approximately 300 gallons. See event report 44988.

There is a EP briefing scheduled for State agencies May 20 at ODOT offices at the Don Scott airport.

Activity:

4/1 Working Group at OEMA. Most of meeting was preparation for the URSB meeting and the Davis

Besse dry run. After the meeting the IZRRAG met briefly to set a schedule for planning and review meetings and the fall drill.

4/6 URSB meeting at OEMA. The Board voted to adopt the rules of OEMA governing public notice of meetings. This will replace the Boards procedures, which are essentially identical. OEMA proposed this change for consistency in their operations. The Board also voted to recognize the service of Vernon Higaki to the Board and State on his retirement from FirstEnergy.

4/7 Rat Steering committee at Groveport. This was a discussion of; the July 1 training as a last chance to utilize the expertise of John Wills, equipment purchases for Ludlum 44-38 meter probes and new contamination meters, and presentation of the NWDO sampling location database.

4/14 Davis Besse dry run minor glitches with the Ops Center software – mostly from old incident assignments for OEPA not being properly closed out in the software. This resulted in District calls to non players in the scenario and general confusion in communications. A request was made for Ops Center incidents to be closed out after they are complete.

Office Issues:

Filed equipment for the RAT Team has been ordered. This includes 5 44-38 probes for the Ludlum 22241-3 meters, 3 Canberra MCB2 contamination meters, and 10 Ultraradiac personal dosimeters.

NRC Reports and Statistics:

April operating power levels

Date	BV1	BV2	DB	Fermi2	Perry	
1	100	100	100	0	0	BV Unit 1 in coast down to outage
4	98	100	70	0	0	Davis Besse shutting down for planned

			maintenance			
6	98	100	0	0	0	
13	97	100	0	0	0	
20	0	100	0	0	0	BV1 RFO 19
started						
21	0	100	14	0	0	Davis Besse in
start up						
25	0	100	100	0	0	Davis Besse at
full power						
27	0	100	100	0	0	
30	0	100	100	10	0	Fermi in start up

Issuance of Order for Implementation of Additional Security Measures and Fingerprinting for Unescorted Access for Perry Nuclear Power Plant Independent Spent Fuel Storage Installation. The document is publicly available and will be accessible via the public web site Electronic Reading Room in the Agency Document Access and Management System (ADAMS),

<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html>

To access this document use ADAMS Accession No: ML090920379

Issuance of Order for Implementation of Additional Security Measures and Fingerprinting for Unescorted Access for Fermi Power Plant Independent Spent Fuel Storage Installation. The document is publicly available and will be accessible via the public web site Electronic Reading Room in the Agency Document Access and Management System (ADAMS),

<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html>

To access this document use ADAMS Accession No: ML090921014

Beaver Valley Power Station, Unit No. 2 - Request for Additional Information Re: Alternative Repair Methods for Reactor Vessel Head Penetrations & J-Groove Welds Relief Request (TAC No. MD9970). The document is publicly available and will be accessible via the public web site

Electronic Reading Room in the Agency Document Access and Management System (ADAMS),
<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html>
To access this document use ADAMS Accession No.:ML090920098

PDF version of RIS 2009-04, Steam Generator Tube Inspection Requirements, dated April 3, 2009 (ML03470557), has been posted to the NRR GCC Web, along with the URL for Web access to generic communications files on the NRC Homepage:
<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/gen-comm/reg-issues/2009/>.

A PDF version of Information Notice 2009-07, Withholding of Propriety Information from Public Disclosure, dated March 30, 2009 (ML082460249), has been posted to the NRR GCC Web, along with the URL for Web access to generic communications files on the NRC Homepage:
<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/gen-comm/info-notices/2009/>.

Beaver Valley Power Station, Unit Nos. 1 and 2 - Issuance of Amendments Re: Spray Additive System by Containment Sump PH Control (TAC Nos. MD9734 and MD9735). The document is publicly available and will be accessible via the public web site Electronic Reading Room in the Agency Document Access and Management System (ADAMS),
<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html>
To access this document use ADAMS Accession No: ML090780352

Beaver Valley Power Station, Unit No.2 -Correction Letter RE:Extension Request Approval to Generic Letter 2004-02, "Potential Impact of Debris Blockage on Emergency Recirculation During Design Basis Accidents at Pressurized Water Reactors,"(TAC NO.MC4666). The

document is publicly available and will be accessible via the public web site Electronic Reading Room in the Agency Document Access and Management System (ADAMS),

<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html>

To access this document use ADAMS Accession:
ML091050100

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YUCCA MOUNTAIN: Time for Congress to 'move on' - - Domenici (04/02/2009)

Katherine Ling, E&E reporter

A former Senate chairman who was a key advocate for nuclear power over the last 20 years today said Congress should "move on" from the nuclear waste repository at Yucca Mountain, Nev.

Former Energy and Natural Resources Chairman Pete Domenici (R-N.M.) said a combination of factors has led to his conclusion: The Obama administration's decision to essentially stop work at the site, the fact that the repository would pretty much be filled by the nation's high-level nuclear waste by next year, and the "foolhardy" notion of putting a potential energy resource underground instead of reprocessing it.

"It seems to me when you couple those facts ... we ought to check it off and move on to others," he told an audience at a Manhattan Institute event in Washington. Domenici said a possible waste management strategy is to reprocess and place any final waste in salt caverns, similar to the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant in Carlsbad, N.M. Domenici said the site at Yucca could still possibly be used as a laboratory or for another purpose.

Domenici, sometimes referred to as the "father of the nuclear renaissance," is the latest in a series of high-profile nuclear energy advocates to abandon the Yucca repository -- although Domenici said several times last year that he thought the project would be unsuccessful. Sen. John McCain (R-Ariz.) recently said he will push measures to "move on to other options" and also refund about \$16 billion in fees paid by ratepayers who use nuclear power (*Greenwire*, March 31).

Other nuclear supporters, such as Sen. Lisa Murkowski

(R-Alaska), say neither the Obama administration or Congress should abandon Yucca without another solution, as it may derail the actions on new reactors by the U.S. nuclear power industry.

Domenici said he did not agree with McCain's idea of giving back the money paid by ratepayers to construct a repository but that it instead should be put to other waste management uses that benefit the ratepayer.

"I think we made mistakes on Yucca all over the place," Domenici admitted. He said he could not comment on recent proposals by the Energy Department and Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid (D-Nev.) to create a "blue ribbon" panel to find alternatives to Yucca.

But this time Congress should make a commitment to a final place to dispose of the waste "and then work backward" on what the waste stream should look like, whether spent fuel rods from a once-through cycle or other forms of waste generated through reprocessing, he said. "There should be more unanimity about the purpose," he said.

NUCLEAR WASTE: States threatening to halt payments if U.S. cancels Yucca Mountain

(04/08/2009)

Katherine Ling, E&E reporter

Several legislatures of states with nuclear power plants are considering stopping or reducing payments to the federal government for nuclear waste management until the proposed Yucca Mountain, Nev., repository opens or another solution to the waste problem emerges.

Since the February release of President Obama's budget blueprint, which signaled the likely demise of the Yucca Mountain plan, pro-nuclear lawmakers in Congress have grumbled about the uncertainty such a move would bring. Sen. John McCain (R-Ariz.), for one, threatened to promote a measure to return waste-removal fees paid by electric ratepayers.

But at least four states are trying now to take matters into their own hands.

Maine lawmakers passed a resolution yesterday asking the federal government to immediately reduce fees paid

by electricity customers for managing spent nuclear fuel. The resolution also urges the expedited establishment of two federally licensed interim storage facilities that would take possession of the waste and create an independent panel to assess the long-term prospects for handling military and civilian nuclear wastes.

Since 1982, U.S. nuclear-power ratepayers have paid a tenth of a cent per kilowatt-hour into a federal fund that now holds about \$30 billion. The fund can be used only to build the repository.

The Department of Energy has spent about \$13.5 billion on the Yucca Mountain project since 1983 and had contracted with utilities to begin taking spent fuel in 1998. The partial breach of contracts leaves DOE liable for about \$11 billion based on plans for the repository opening in 2020. That liability would escalate for each year the waste is not removed from nuclear plant sites, DOE says.

So far, Maine has paid \$65.5 million of its \$185 million obligation for its only nuclear plant, the Yankee Nuclear Power Station, which the state closed in 1997. There are currently 64 casks of used nuclear fuel on the decommissioned site awaiting disposal, says the Nuclear Energy Institute (NEI), the nuclear industry's policy arm. NEI said Maine's frustration may be just the beginning of a national revolt.

"We were pleased to see this resolution adopted by the Maine Legislature. It clearly recognizes the important issues now facing the country in light of the situation with the Yucca Mountain repository," said John Keeley, an NEI spokesman.

"We hope Maine calling for a reduction of the waste fee and movement on interim storage will incentivize the administration and Congress to take up those issues," he said. "It's easy to understand the frustration that led to this resolution."

Other state proposals

Other states, which are obligated to pay much more than Maine, are considering even stronger measures to pressure the Obama administration and Congress. There are about 55,000 tons of civilian high-level waste in more than 120 locations in 39 states waiting for disposal.

Minnesota state Rep. Joe Atkins introduced legislation that would hold Minnesota waste-fee payments -- about

\$13 million per year -- in escrow until DOE "can show that a federal repository is operating and currently accepting such material." Minnesota has paid about \$659 million, including interest, into the fund.

Atkins' proposal has passed the energy committee and is awaiting consideration by the state House of Representatives.

Atkins wants all lawmakers in nuclear states and the National Conference of State Legislatures to support similar measures. "If enough states follow suit, we might finally get an answer on Yucca Mountain -- moving 55,000 tons of nuclear waste to a safe and permanent storage place we've been waiting on for decades," he said in a statement.

The Michigan Senate also has a bill that would establish a nuclear waste escrow account. The state Senate has another resolution urging DOE and the Nuclear Regulatory Commission "to do everything necessary to allow the Yucca Mountain repository to begin accepting high-level nuclear waste." Michigan has paid \$656 million into the waste fund.

"The construction of new nuclear power plants, which are needed to provide clean and reliable baseload power, is being hampered by the unresolved issue of spent nuclear fuel," the Michigan bill, S.R. 9, says. "In order to realize the many benefits of nuclear power, the nation must address the issue of high-level nuclear waste."

A proposed South Carolina resolution, meanwhile, supports the qualification of a repository at Yucca Mountain.

South Carolina currently holds commercial waste and defense high-level waste at the Savannah River Site -- a DOE laboratory specializing in the nuclear fuel cycle -- and the Mixed Oxide Fuel Fabrication Plant is being built there. The state could be a prime candidate for an interim or long-term repository if Yucca is abandoned.

NUCLEAR POWER: Southern Co. to start preliminary work at Ga. reactor site (04/09/2009)

Katherine Ling, E&E reporter

Southern Nuclear Co. has given the green light to start

work on two new reactor sites near Augusta, Ga., becoming the first U.S. company to start construction from scratch in more than 30 years.

It is the strongest move so far toward reactor construction among U.S. companies, which have filed 17 applications for new plants with the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

The company's decision to proceed follows the Georgia Public Service Commission's March approval for engineering procurement and construction contracts that Southern Nuclear made with Westinghouse and Shaw last year to build two reactors at the Vogtle site.

The commission also permitted Southern Co.'s subsidiary, Georgia Power, to begin including the cost of the construction in its electricity rates in 2011, pending approval from Georgia's governor. Southern Nuclear has not put a price tag on the reactors, but companies estimate that building similar designs would cost \$12 billion to \$14 billion. There are two operating reactors at the site, as well.

Groups opposing the new reactors said Southern Nuclear's decision to move ahead now will be costly.

"We find this to be another step that is putting Georgia ratepayer's at risk because this basically means they can start racking up costs associated with that contract," said Sara Barczak, program director for the Southern Alliance for Clean Energy. Southern Alliance challenged the certification before the Georgia Commission and is assessing its next steps, Barczak said.

"There are still many, many hurdles before this plant can even be built, let alone produce electricity. We have seen it for years now, just Southern Co. rushing down the road for more nuclear plants and ignoring the other options available, ignoring low-hanging fruit especially energy efficiency," she said.

Southern Nuclear told the Georgia commission that inserting the additional fees in bills earlier in the process will save on customers' costs later on.

Southern Nuclear plans to build the new units at Vogtle if NRC grants the license, regardless of whether it receives a federal loan guarantee, company spokeswoman Elizabeth Thomas said. "While we support loan guarantees and plan to take advantage of them to the extent they benefit our customers, we are not dependent

on them to build new nuclear generation," Thomas said in an e-mail.

The initial construction will only include "non-safety" work such as building warehouses and parking lots and doing excavation for "power block" facilities that will house the reactors and turbine, Thomas said. NRC released the final safety evaluation on Southern Nuclear's early site permit in February, which allows limited construction to begin. Southern Nuclear said the first of the two new units would be brought online in 2016 and the second in 2017, for a total of about 1,100 megawatts. The two current units have a capacity of about 1,200 megawatts.

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NUCLEAR POWER: Taiwan debates lifting reactor ban to cut carbon emissions (04/15/2009)

Taiwanese government officials, scholars, executives and environmentalists are convening to discuss whether it is time to lift the country's eight-year ban on new nuclear reactors.

The two-day state conference on energy begins today, pitting President Ma Ying-jeou against nuclear opponents, who say the power source is too dangerous in earthquake-prone Taiwan. The president has broken from the policy of his predecessor, Chen Shui-bian, who vowed that the country would phase out its nuclear program beginning in 2001.

"How we're going to deal with nuclear energy is up for discussion," said Yeh Huey-ching, head of Taiwan's energy bureau. The government's position is backed by the state-run utility company, which said it has room to build 10 new reactors at existing power plants.

"Nuclear power is an inevitable option because we want to cut carbon emissions," said Tu Yueh-yuan, head engineer of the Taiwan Power Co.

A policy reversal would greatly benefit nuclear reactor manufacturers like General Electric Co. and Toshiba Corp.'s Westinghouse Electric Co., but it would likely reduce imports of coal from Indonesia and Australia.

A return to nuclear power would bring Taiwan in line with China, India, Japan and South Korea, all of which are planning to add more reactors to reduce their reliance on

coal (Sun/Morales, Bloomberg, April 14). – PT

Power Reactor	Event Number: 44968
Facility: FERMI Region: 3 State: MI Unit: [2] [] [] RX Type: [2] GE-4 NRC Notified By: DAVID DUNCAN HQ OPS Officer: JOE O'HARA	Notification Date: 04/03/2009 Notification Time: 17:07 [ET] Event Date: 04/03/2009 Event Time: 16:30 [EDT] Last Update Date: 04/03/2009
Emergency Class: NON EMERGENCY 10 CFR Section: 50.72(b)(3)(xiii) - LOSS COMM/ASMT/RESPONSE	Person (Organization): STEVE ORTH (R3)

Unit	SCRAM Code	RX CRIT	Initial PWR	Initial RX Mode	Current PWR	Current RX Mode
2	N	N	0	Refueling	0	Refueling

Event Text

PLANNED MAINTENANCE ON SPDS AND ERDS

"At 1630 hours on 04/03/2009, the SPDS and ERDS system was removed from service to support activities for a planned maintenance outage on the UPS vital bus power supply. The duration of work is expected to be approximately 24 hours. During this time, Control Room indications and alternate methods will be available. Since the SPDS computer system will be unavailable for greater than 8 hours, this is considered a Loss of Emergency Assessment Capability and reportable under 10CFR50.72(b)(3)(xiii)."

The licensee will notify the NRC Resident Inspector.

General Information or Other	Event Number: 44973
Rep Org: OHIO BUREAU OF RADIATION PROTECTION Licensee: UNIVERSITY HOSPITALS OF CLEVELAND Region: 3 City: CLEVELAND State: OH County: License #: 02110180077 Agreement: Y Docket: NRC Notified By: STEPHEN JAMES HQ OPS Officer: JOE O'HARA	Notification Date: 04/06/2009 Notification Time: 13:00 [ET] Event Date: 12/15/2008 Event Time: [EDT] Last Update Date: 04/06/2009
Emergency Class: NON EMERGENCY 10 CFR Section: AGREEMENT STATE	Person (Organization): ROBERT DALEY (R3) ANGELA MCINTOSH (FSME)

Event Text

INCIDENT INVOLVING CO-60 GAMMA KNIFE DURING PATIENT TREATMENT

The following information was provided by the state via e-mail:

"During an inspection on March 17 through 19, 2009, the ODH [Ohio Department of Health] inspector identified through the licensee's radiation safety committee meeting minutes an incident involving the Co-60 Gamma Knife that occurred on December 15, 2008, at approximately 2:15 pm. During a patient treatment, the couch moved out of treatment position. The emergency stop button was activated and the system did not respond. The licensee's staff had to manually pull out the couch from the Gamma Knife and manually close the doors to the Gamma Knife to shield the source.

"According to the licensee, radiation exposure to all individuals involved with the incident was minimal. The incident DID NOT result in a medical event for the patient. The manufacturer (Elekta) was immediately contacted and the Gamma Knife was repaired. Patient treatment was resumed and completed without incident. According to Elekta, the Gamma Knife system experienced an illegal couch sensor error due to a known software bug problem.

"The licensee failed to notify the Ohio Department of Health, Bureau of Radiation Protection of this device failure and therefore this is determined to be non-compliant with the provisions of rule 3701:1-40-20 (B)(2)(a,b,c) of the Ohio Administrative Code."

Ohio State Reference Number: OH 2009-008

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Power Reactor	Event Number: 44968
Facility: FERMI Region: 3 State: MI Unit: [2] [] [] RX Type: [2] GE-4 NRC Notified By: DAVID DUNCAN HQ OPS Officer: JOE O'HARA	Notification Date: 04/03/2009 Notification Time: 17:07 [ET] Event Date: 04/03/2009 Event Time: 16:30 [EDT] Last Update Date: 04/09/2009
Emergency Class: NON EMERGENCY 10 CFR Section: 50.72(b)(3)(xiii) - LOSS COMM/ASMT/RESPONSE	Person (Organization): STEVE ORTH (R3)

Unit	SCRAM Code	RX CRIT	Initial PWR	Initial RX Mode	Current PWR	Current RX Mode
2	N	N	0	Refueling	0	Refueling

Event Text

PLANNED MAINTENANCE ON SPDS AND ERDS

"At 1630 hours on 04/03/2009, the SPDS and ERDS system was removed from service to support activities for a planned maintenance outage on the UPS vital bus power supply. The duration of work is expected to be approximately 24 hours. During this time, Control Room indications and alternate methods will be available. Since the SPDS computer system will be unavailable for greater than 8 hours, this is considered a Loss of Emergency Assessment Capability and reportable under 10CFR50.72(b)(3)(xiii)."

The licensee will notify the NRC Resident Inspector.

* * * UPDATE PROVIDED BY J. GROFF TO J. KOZAL ON 04/09/09 AT 1257 * * *

"Update to event #44968 regarding SPDS and ERDS system removed from service to support planned outage on the UPS vital power supply. Planned work which resulted in the removal from service of the SPDS and ERDS has been completed."

The licensee will notify the NRC Resident Inspector. Notified R3DO (Daley).

Power Reactor	Event Number: 44984
Facility: FERMI Region: 3 State: MI Unit: [2] [] [] RX Type: [2] GE-4 NRC Notified By: ROBERT MATUSZAK HQ OPS Officer: DONALD NORWOOD	Notification Date: 04/11/2009 Notification Time: 14:27 [ET] Event Date: 04/11/2009 Event Time: 12:10 [EDT] Last Update Date: 04/11/2009
Emergency Class: NON EMERGENCY 10 CFR Section: 50.72(b)(3)(xiii) - LOSS COMM/ASMT/RESPONSE	Person (Organization): ROBERT DALEY (R3)

Unit	SCRAM Code	RX CRIT	Initial PWR	Initial RX Mode	Current PWR	Current RX Mode
2	N	N	0	Refueling	0	Refueling

Event Text

LOSS OF EMERGENCY ASSESSMENT CAPABILITY - TECHNICAL SUPPORT CENTER VENTILATION UNAVAILABLE

"Notified by Engineering that Technical Support Center (TSC) emergency charcoal sample failed acceptance criteria. Declared TSC ventilation unavailable at 12:10 PM EDT, 4/11/09. TSC ventilation supports RERP radiological habitability function and as such represents a major loss of emergency assessment capability, offsite response capability, or offsite communications capability in accordance with 10CFR50.72(b)(3)(xiii). Notified all Shift Managers if an emergency event is declared (Alert or higher), Shift Managers will need to modify emergency call out service so that TSC staffing report to Emergency Operating Facility (EOF). The use of the EOF as a backup facility for the TSC is included in Fermi's RERP Plan. Fermi will notify the NRC upon completion of corrective maintenance."

The licensee notified the NRC Resident Inspector.

Power Reactor	Event Number: 44989
Facility: PERRY Region: 3 State: OH Unit: [1] [] [] RX Type: [1] GE-6 NRC Notified By: ANTHONY JARDINE HQ OPS Officer: JOHN KNOKE	Notification Date: 04/14/2009 Notification Time: 14:18 [ET] Event Date: 04/14/2009 Event Time: 07:43 [EDT] Last Update Date: 04/14/2009
Emergency Class: NON EMERGENCY 10 CFR Section:	Person (Organization): LAURA KOZAK (R3)

50.72(b)(3)(xiii) - LOSS COMM/ASMT/RESPONSE

Unit	SCRAM Code	RX CRIT	Initial PWR	Initial RX Mode	Current PWR	Current RX Mode
1	N	N	0	Refueling	0	Refueling

Event Text

SAFETY PARAMETER DISPLAY SYSTEM AND ERDS OUT OF SERVICE

"On April 14, 2009, at approximately 0743 hours, electrical power was lost to 480 volt busses V-1-F and V-2-F. These busses supply electrical power to the Emergency Response Data System (ERDS). The electrical power loss caused the ERDS, the Safety Parameter Display System (SPDS), and the automatic mode calculation of the Computer Aided Dose Assessment Program (CADAP) to be disabled. Preliminary investigation indicates that a failed inverter caused the power loss.

"Contingency plans have been established to transmit plant parameter data and perform the dose assessment function in the event of an emergency while ERDS is unavailable. The ERDS, SPDS and CADAP were restored at 1110 hours.

"This event is being reported in accordance with 10 CFR 50.72(b)(3)(xiii), as a condition that results in a major loss of offsite communications capability."

The NRC Resident Inspector has been notified.

Power Reactor	Event Number: 44999
Facility: FERMI Region: 3 State: MI Unit: [2] [] [] RX Type: [2] GE-4 NRC Notified By: MIKE HIMEBAUCH HQ OPS Officer: HOWIE CROUCH	Notification Date: 04/19/2009 Notification Time: 23:38 [ET] Event Date: 04/19/2009 Event Time: 23:15 [EDT] Last Update Date: 04/19/2009
Emergency Class: NON EMERGENCY 10 CFR Section: 50.72(b)(3)(xiii) - LOSS COMM/ASMT/RESPONSE	Person (Organization): LAURA KOZAK (R3)

Unit	SCRAM Code	RX CRIT	Initial PWR	Initial RX Mode	Current PWR	Current RX Mode
2	N	N	0	Refueling	0	Refueling

Event Text

SAFETY PARAMETER DISPLAY SYSTEM AND EMERGENCY RESPONSE DATA SYSTEM OUT OF SERVICE FOR PLANNED MAINTENANCE

"On 4/19/09 at 2315 EDT, Safety Parameter Display System (SPDS) and Emergency Response Data System (ERDS) were removed from service to support activities for a planned maintenance outage on the UPS vital bus power supply. The duration of work is expected to be approximately 24 hours. During this time, the majority of the Control Room indications remain available to the plant staff, and will be used for emergency response, if needed. Information will be communicated to the NRC using other available communication systems, if needed. The plant is currently in Mode 5, and will remain in Mode 5, for the duration of the SPDS and ERDS unavailability. Since the unavailability will

last greater than 8 hours, this is considered a Loss of Emergency Assessment Capability, and reportable under 10CFR50.72(b)(3)(xiii).

"The NRC Resident Inspector has been notified."

* * * UPDATE FROM MIKE HIMEBAUCH TO HOWIE CROUCH ON 4/20/09 @ 2301 EDT * * *

"Update to Event #44999 regarding SPDS and ERDS being removed from service to support planned maintenance on the UPS vital bus power supply. Maintenance is complete, and SPDS and ERDS were returned to service on 4/20/09 at 2230 EDT. The NRC Resident Inspector has been notified."

Notified R3DO (Cameron).

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Power Reactor	Event Number: 45000
Facility: BEAVER VALLEY Region: 1 State: PA Unit: [1] [] [] RX Type: [1] W-3-LP,[2] W-3-LP NRC Notified By: GEORGE E. STOROLIS HQ OPS Officer: STEVE SANDIN	Notification Date: 04/20/2009 Notification Time: 05:09 [ET] Event Date: 04/20/2009 Event Time: 01:15 [EDT] Last Update Date: 04/20/2009
Emergency Class: NON EMERGENCY 10 CFR Section: 50.72(b)(3)(iv)(A) - VALID SPECIF SYS ACTUATION	Person (Organization): RAY POWELL (R1)

Unit	SCRAM Code	RX CRIT	Initial PWR	Initial RX Mode	Current PWR	Current RX Mode
1	N	N	0	Hot Standby	0	Hot Standby

Event Text

AUXILIARY FEEDWATER ACTUATION ON VALID STEAM GENERATOR HI-HI SIGNAL DURING SHUTDOWN

"On April 20,2009 at 01:15 during Beaver Valley Power Station Unit 1 shutdown and cooldown in support of the 19th refueling outage, Unit 1 experienced an Engineered Safety Feature (ESF) actuation P-14 due to Steam Generator (SG) HI-HI water level in the 'B' Steam Generator. This ESF actuation initiated automatic actions resulting in full feedwater isolation, trip of the only operating 'B' main feed and the start of two Auxiliary Feedwater System pumps. The unplanned automatic initiation of the Auxiliary Feedwater system [was] due to the Main Feedwater pump trip. The P-14 automatic ESF features properly closed the main and bypass feedwater regulating valves and [caused the] closure of the Feedwater Containment Isolation valves. A turbine trip signal was generated but the turbine was not on-line. The automatic start of the MDAFW pumps from this valid signal is reportable under 10CFR50.72(b)(3)(iv)(A).

"The cause of the steam generator high level transient is the failure of the FCV-1FW-489, 'B' steam generator feed water bypass level control to automatically maintain level. Attempts to control the level manually were not successful. Additional investigation is in progress.

"P-14 ESF actuation reset actions are being performed. Unit one cooldown continues using the MDAFW pumps and controls. AFW continues to be injected into the steam generators.

"The licensee notified the NRC resident Inspector."



Power Reactor	Event Number: 45001
Facility: BEAVER VALLEY Region: 1 State: PA Unit: [1] [] [] RX Type: [1] W-3-LP,[2] W-3-LP NRC Notified By: GEORGE E. STOROLIS HQ OPS Officer: STEVE SANDIN	Notification Date: 04/20/2009 Notification Time: 05:09 [ET] Event Date: 04/20/2009 Event Time: 01:53 [EDT] Last Update Date: 04/20/2009
Emergency Class: NON EMERGENCY 10 CFR Section: 50.72(b)(3)(iv)(A) - VALID SPECIF SYS ACTUATION	Person (Organization): RAY POWELL (R1)

Unit	SCRAM Code	RX CRIT	Initial PWR	Initial RX Mode	Current PWR	Current RX Mode
1	N	N	0	Hot Standby	0	Hot Standby

Event Text

UNEXPECTED START OF THE STEAM DRIVEN AUXILIARY FEEDWATER PUMP DURING PLANT COOLDOWN

"On 4/20/09 at 0153 hours, while in Mode 3 performing a plant cooldown for a refueling outage, a control room operator noted that the 'B' train steam supply (TV-1MS-105B) to the steam driven auxiliary feedwater pump, FW-P-2, was open. This caused the steam driven auxiliary feedwater pump to start and inject auxiliary feedwater into the steam generators. This was an unexpected condition. The start of the FW-P-2 auxiliary turbine driven feedwater pump is reportable under 10CFR50.72(b)(3)(iv)(A).

"At 0209, TV-1MS-105B was closed. The steam driven auxiliary feedwater pump was declared inoperable and Technical Specification action statements were entered. Technical Specification 3.7.5 Condition B requires the pump to be restored to operable status within 72 hours or be in Mode 4 within the following 18 hours.

"Mode 4 was entered on 4/20/09 at 0347 hours. The steam drive auxiliary feedwater pump is not required to be operable in Mode 4. Technical Specification 3.7.5 Condition B was exited on 4/20/09 at 0347.

"Investigation is in progress to determine the cause of TV-1MS-105B opening.

"The licensee notified the NRC Resident Inspector."

Power Reactor	Event Number: 45015
Facility: BEAVER VALLEY Region: 1 State: PA Unit: [1] [] [] RX Type: [1] W-3-LP,[2] W-3-LP NRC Notified By: DAN SHWER HQ OPS Officer: KARL DIEDERICH	Notification Date: 04/23/2009 Notification Time: 15:26 [ET] Event Date: 04/23/2009 Event Time: 10:15 [EDT] Last Update Date: 04/23/2009
Emergency Class: NON EMERGENCY 10 CFR Section:	Person (Organization): PAUL KROHN (R1DO)

50.72(b)(3)(ii)(A) - DEGRADED CONDITION

Unit	SCRAM Code	RX CRIT	Initial PWR	Initial RX Mode	Current PWR	Current RX Mode
1	N	N	0	Refueling	0	Refueling

Event Text

DAMAGED AREA IN CONTAINMENT LINER

"On April 21, 2009 during the Beaver Valley Power Station Unit No.1 (BVPS-1) refueling outage, an ASME XI Section IWE General Visual examination was performed on the interior containment liner. A suspect area was identified at the 738 foot elevation level of containment. This area was approximately 3 inches in diameter and exhibited blistered paint and a protruding rust product. At approximately 1015 hours on April 23, 2009 after cleaning the area and removal of the corrosion products, a rectangular area approximately 1 inch (horizontal) by 3/8 inch (vertical) was discovered that penetrated through the containment steel liner plate (nominal .375 inch thickness). The BVPS-1 containment design consists of an internal steel liner that is surrounded by reinforced concrete.

"With the plant currently shutdown and in Mode 6, the containment as specified in Technical Specification 3.6.1 is not required to be operable. The cause of this discrepancy is currently being evaluated.

"This is reportable pursuant to 10 CFR 50.72(b)(3)(ii)(A) as a condition of the principal safety barrier (i.e., containment) being seriously degraded."

The licensee has notified the NRC Resident Inspector.

* * * * *

Power Reactor	Event Number: 45022
Facility: BEAVER VALLEY Region: 1 State: PA Unit: [1] [] [] RX Type: [1] W-3-LP,[2] W-3-LP NRC Notified By: DAN SCHWER HQ OPS Officer: BILL HUFFMAN	Notification Date: 04/26/2009 Notification Time: 13:46 [ET] Event Date: 04/26/2009 Event Time: 10:00 [EDT] Last Update Date: 04/26/2009
Emergency Class: NON EMERGENCY 10 CFR Section: 50.72(b)(3)(ii)(A) - DEGRADED CONDITION	Person (Organization): PAUL KROHN (R1DO)

Unit	SCRAM Code	RX CRIT	Initial PWR	Initial RX Mode	Current PWR	Current RX Mode
1	N	N	0	Refueling	0	Refueling

Event Text

NDT REVEALS CIRCUMFERENTIAL INDICATIONS ON RCS HOT LEG DRAIN PIPING

"On April 26, 2009 at approximately 1000 hours during the Beaver Valley Power Station Unit No. 1 (BVPS-1) refueling outage, ultrasonic (UT) examinations were performed on pipe base material per the Materials Reliability Project (MRP) MRP-146 recommendations. The MRP recommendations were to address industry operating experience for similar indications identified by other utilities. Two circumferential UT indications approximately 3/8 inches in length were recorded in the base material

adjacent to a socket weld on the horizontal portion of line BV-1 RC-41 which is a two (2) inch drain line that connects to the 'A' Reactor Coolant System (RCS) Hot Leg. The function of this piping is to drain the applicable loop during maintenance periods. The indications are not through wall and there was no evidence of leakage. Similar 2 inch drain lines on the other loops have been inspected satisfactorily.

"The plant is currently shutdown and in Mode 6. The affected RCS loop is not required to be Operable and is currently isolated and drained. Repairs are currently being planned and will be completed prior to startup.

"This is reportable pursuant to 10 CFR 50.72(b)(3)(ii)(A).

"The NRC Resident Inspector has been notified."



Power Reactor	Event Number: 45023
Facility: BEAVER VALLEY Region: 1 State: PA Unit: [1] [] [] RX Type: [1] W-3-LP,[2] W-3-LP NRC Notified By: DAVE GIBSON HQ OPS Officer: BILL HUFFMAN	Notification Date: 04/26/2009 Notification Time: 21:31 [ET] Event Date: 04/26/2009 Event Time: 15:45 [EDT] Last Update Date: 04/26/2009
Emergency Class: NON EMERGENCY 10 CFR Section: 50.72(b)(3)(xiii) - LOSS COMM/ASMT/RESPONSE	Person (Organization): PAUL KROHN (R1DO)

Unit	SCRAM Code	RX CRIT	Initial PWR	Initial RX Mode	Current PWR	Current RX Mode
1	N	N	0	Refueling	0	Refueling

Event Text

ERDS AND PLANT COMPUTER UNAVAILABLE DURING MAINTENANCE ON COMPUTER ROOM COOLING

"At 1545 on 04/26/2009, the Emergency Response Data System (ERDS) at the Beaver Valley Power Station (BVPS) Unit 1 was removed from service. The ERDS is a direct near real-time electronic data link between the licensee's onsite computer system and the NRC Operations Center that provides for the automated transmission of a limited data set of selected parameters. The ERDS supplements the existing voice transmission over the Emergency Notification System (ENS) by providing the NRC Operations Center with timely and accurate updates of a limited set of parameters from the licensee's installed onsite computer system in the event of an emergency.

"The BVPS Unit 1 plant computer and ERDS was removed from service due to planned maintenance on the River Water cooling to the air conditioning for the computer room. The maintenance is scheduled to be completed in approximately 48 hours. This is being reported pursuant to 10 CFR 50.72(b)(3)(xiii).

"Until the ERDS communication is restored, BVPS Unit 1 would utilize its pre-planned backup information flow path in event of an emergency as provided in Procedure 1/2-EPP-IP-1.4, Attachment G when the ERDS system is not operational.

"The BVPS Unit 2 ERDS is not affected and remains operational.

"The NRC Resident has been notified."

* * * UPDATE FROM RONALD T. GREEN TO DONALD NORWOOD ON 4/29/09 AT 1355 EDT * * *

"As of 1320 on 04/29/2009, the BVPS Unit 1 plant computer and the data communication link to the Emergency Response Data System (ERDS) were returned to service."

"The site NRC Resident Inspector has been notified."

Notified R1DO (Krohn).

* * * * *

Power Reactor	Event Number: 45025
Facility: PERRY Region: 3 State: OH Unit: [1] [] [] RX Type: [1] GE-6 NRC Notified By: THOMAS MORSE HQ OPS Officer: VINCE KLCO	Notification Date: 04/28/2009 Notification Time: 00:55 [ET] Event Date: 04/27/2009 Event Time: 17:30 [EDT] Last Update Date: 04/28/2009
Emergency Class: NON EMERGENCY 10 CFR Section: 50.72(b)(3)(v)(B) - POT RHR INOP	Person (Organization): DAVID HILLS (R3DO)

Unit	SCRAM Code	RX CRIT	Initial PWR	Initial RX Mode	Current PWR	Current RX Mode
1	N	N	0	Refueling	0	Refueling

Event Text

RESIDUAL HEAT REMOVAL (RHR) PUMP TRIPPED WHILE IN OPERATION FOR SHUTDOWN COOLING

"On April 27, 2009, at approximately 1730 hours, with the plant in Mode 5 during refueling outage (RFO) 12, RHR 'A' pump tripped while operating in shutdown cooling. RHR 'A' was the primary decay heat removal shutdown cooling system. RHR 'B' was the backup decay heat removal shutdown cooling system. Preliminary investigation shows that jumper installation activities associated with plant testing resulted in a blown fuse and closure of the RHR shutdown cooling outboard common suction isolation valve (1E12F008). Closure of the 1E12F008 valve tripped the RHR 'A' pump and prevented the RHR 'B' pump from being used to initiate shutdown cooling from the control room. Operators were preparing to manually open 1E12F008 in parallel with activities to restore control from the control room."

"The plant entered Technical Specification 3.9.9, 'RHR - Low Water Level', Conditions A and C due to 1E12F008 isolating causing the loss of shutdown cooling. Action A.1 calls for verification of an alternate method of decay heat removal available for each inoperable RHR shutdown cooling subsystem in 1 hour and once per 24 hours thereafter. This was completed with the fuel pool cooling and cleanup system's two pumps and two heat exchangers cooled by NCC [Nuclear Closed Cooling System] (available due to the ability to reflood the upper pools with a hotwell pump through normal cavity reflood path) being one alternate system. A second alternate system was the utilization of the low pressure core spray to flood the vessel, returning to the suppression pool through safety relief valves, and a loop of RHR in suppression pool cooling. Actions for Condition C, to verify reactor coolant circulation by an alternate method and to monitor reactor coolant temperature were not met due to no reactor coolant flow past a valid temperature monitoring point. Approximate reactor coolant temperature was being trended using the reactor water cleanup

system.

"The blown fuse was identified and replaced at approximately 1816 hours. The RHR 'B' pump was started at approximately 1834 hours. From the time that the RHR 'A' pump tripped (approximately 1730), until the RHR 'B' pump was started, the reactor temperature increased from 94 degrees F to 97 degrees F. Pre-determined time to boil had been calculated to be 9 hours. At approximately 1835 hours, TS 3.9.9 Condition C was exited due to the RHR 'B' shutdown cooling loop being placed in operation.

"This event is being reported as an event or condition that at the time of discovery could have prevented fulfillment of a safety function of structures or systems that are needed to remove residual heat under 10 CFR 50.72(b)(3)(v)(B).

"The NRC Resident Inspector has been notified."

* * * * *

Power Reactor	Event Number: 45032
Facility: DAVIS BESSE Region: 3 State: OH Unit: [1] [] [] RX Type: [1] B&W-R-LP NRC Notified By: LARRY MYERS HQ OPS Officer: DONALD NORWOOD	Notification Date: 04/30/2009 Notification Time: 12:50 [ET] Event Date: 04/30/2009 Event Time: 08:55 [EDT] Last Update Date: 04/30/2009
Emergency Class: NON EMERGENCY 10 CFR Section: 50.72(b)(2)(xi) - OFFSITE NOTIFICATION	Person (Organization): DAVID HILLS (R3DO)

Unit	SCRAM Code	RX CRIT	Initial PWR	Initial RX Mode	Current PWR	Current RX Mode
1	N	Y	100	Power Operation	100	Power Operation

Event Text

OFFSITE NOTIFICATIONS MADE DUE TO INADVERTANT ACTIVATION OF SIX EPZ SIRENS

"At 0855 six sirens had been activated by the Ottawa County dispatch console for 3 minutes.

"At 0905 Ottawa County Sheriff Dispatch Center notified [the licensee] that sirens in Ottawa County had been inadvertently activated. It appears this was caused by the county radio service vendor resetting the dispatch center consoles during trouble shooting of the sheriff's radio system.

"Immediate actions taken: RA-EP-00420, Response to Prompt Notification System Malfunction, was implemented. The siren system was polled and the data from the Emergency Operations Facility (EOF) siren computer was reviewed. The computer data indicated at 08:55:55 the six sirens located in Bay Township had been activated by the Ottawa County Dispatch Console for 3-minutes. Fleet siren maintenance was contacted and requested to come to Ottawa County to meet with the radio service vendor to determine the cause of the inadvertent activation.

"In addition, NOP-LP-5001, Communicating Events of Public Interest, was implemented and associated notifications were made."

These notifications included the State of Ohio, Ottawa County, and Lucas County.

The NRC Resident Inspector was notified by the licensee.

Power Reactor	Event Number: 45035
Facility: FERMI Region: 3 State: MI Unit: [2] [] [] RX Type: [2] GE-4 NRC Notified By: JIM KONRAD HQ OPS Officer: STEVE SANDIN	Notification Date: 04/30/2009 Notification Time: 17:39 [ET] Event Date: 04/30/2009 Event Time: 10:39 [EDT] Last Update Date: 04/30/2009
Emergency Class: NON EMERGENCY 10 CFR Section: 50.72(b)(3)(v)(D) - ACCIDENT MITIGATION	Person (Organization): DAVID HILLS (R3DO)

Unit	SCRAM Code	RX CRIT	Initial PWR	Initial RX Mode	Current PWR	Current RX Mode
2	N	Y	10	Startup	0	Startup

Event Text

HPCI DECLARED INOPERABLE DUE TO FAILURE OF TEST LINE PRESSURE CONTROL VALVE DURING SURVEILLANCE TEST

"During plant startup on 4/29/09 at 2239 [EDT], the startup had progressed to the point where plant conditions were adequate to allow performance of SR 3.5.1.9, High Pressure Coolant Injection (HPCI) System flow testing against system head corresponding to reactor pressure. A Note to SR 3.5.1.9 allows 12 hours to perform this test after adequate reactor steam dome pressure and flow have been established for test performance.

"During the test performance, the test line pressure control valve did not properly operate to establish the required system head. The HPCI system was shutdown and returned to Standby. Earlier, on 4/29/09, SR 3.5.1.10, low pressure HPCI flow testing was successfully completed. Troubleshooting of the test line pressure control valve was begun.

"At 1039 [EDT] on 4/30/09, the 12 hour allowance of the Note to SR 4.5.1.9 expired and the HPCI system was declared inoperable for failure to complete the required surveillance. The HPCI system remains in Standby and is configured to perform its safety function.

"However, this event represents a potential loss of a single train safety system pending repair of the test line pressure control valve and completion of flow testing."

With HPCI inoperable, the Unit is in the 14-day Tech. Spec. Action Statement 3.5.1. The licensee is revising their surveillance procedure to allow for manual operation of the failed control valve and estimates that the required testing will be completed within 4 hours. The Unit will remain in Mode 2 pending completion of this test.

The licensee informed the NRC Resident Inspector.

Fuel Cycle Facility	Event Number: 44988
Facility: PORTSMOUTH AMERICAN CENTRIFUGE RX Type: URANIUM ENRICHMENT FACILITY Comments: 2 DEMOCRACY CENTER 6903 ROCKLEDGE DRIVE	Notification Date: 04/14/2009 Notification Time: 13:40 [ET] Event Date: 04/14/2009 Event Time: [EDT]

BETHESDA, MD 20817 Region: 2 City: PIKETON State: OH County: PIKE License #: SNM-2011 Agreement: Y Docket: 70-7004 NRC Notified By: ERIC SPAETH HQ OPS Officer: MARK ABRAMOVITZ	Last Update Date: 04/15/2009
Emergency Class: NON EMERGENCY 10 CFR Section: PART 70 APP A (c) - OFFSITE NOTIFICATION/NEWS REL	Person (Organization): MALCOLM WIDMANN (R2) LAWRENCE KOKAJKO (NMSS)

Event Text

DIESEL FUEL OIL SPILL REQUIRING OFFSITE NOTIFICATIONS

"On 04/14/09 at approximately 0918 hours, the Plant Shift Superintendent was notified of an oil spill that occurred on the plant site. A diesel generator sitting near a construction area was leaking fuel. Primary and secondary containment was initiated to contain the spill. At 1130 hours environmental response personnel determined that the quantity of oil spilled exceeded the Reportable Quantity (RQ).

"At 1144 hours, 04/14/2009, the Plant Shift Superintendent notified the National Response Center and the Ohio EPA that a Reportable Quantity (RQ) of oil (diesel fuel) was released to the environment.

"Ohio EPA assigned incident #: 0904-66-1084.

"National Response Center assigned incident #: 902636

"ACD2-RG-044, Appendix N, section 1 requires an NRC event notification when other government agencies are notified."

The amount of fuel oil spilled was 25 to 40 gallons. Licensee will be issuing a press release about this spill.

* * * UPDATE AT 2241 ON 4/14/2009 FROM SPAETH TO ABRAMOVITZ * * *

The licensee is issuing a press release and has revised the estimated spill to 300 gallons.

Notified the R2DO (Widman), NMSS (Kokajko), and PAO (Hayden) via e-mail.

* * * UPDATE ON 4/15/2009 AT 1400 FROM SPAETH TO ABRAMOVITZ * * *

This event occurred at the American Centrifuge Plant (Docket 70-7004, license SNM-2011) and not the gaseous diffusion plant.

Notified the R2DO (Widman) and NMSS (Kokajko) via e-mail.

* * * * *

While this is not directly tied to nuclear power, it does impact the energy supply mix of the near future and utility response to additional supply.

GRID: Utilities and transmission managers try to head off congressional plans (04/29/2009)

Peter Behr, E&E reporter

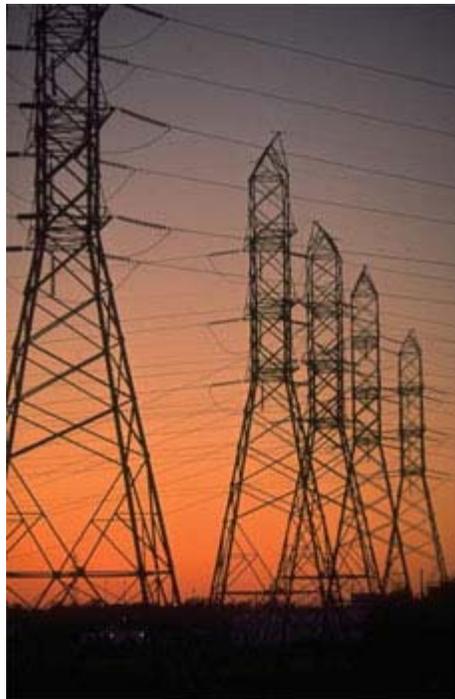
Correction appended.

Major utilities and grid operators are planning an expansion of the Eastern interconnection grid to handle a huge increase in renewable power, seeking to head off congressional proposals for federal grid planning.

The initiative was launched April 8 at a private meeting at the Atlanta airport, attended by officials of the PJM Interconnection, Midwest ISO, ISO New England, New York ISO, the Southeastern Electric Reliability Council, Duke Energy, Entergy Corp., Florida Power & Light, Progress Energy, the Tennessee Valley Authority, Southern Co., Ontario's Independent Electricity System Operator, and other companies.

David Whiteley, a former senior executive with the North American Electric Reliability Corp. and Ameren Corp., has been brought in to head the initiative.

The energy companies and organizations -- which have never before met for such a purpose -- want to show Congress that a grassroots planning approach will be more effective than creating a new, top-down planning process under close federal control, Whiteley said in an interview.



Enlarging the nation's power grid to transmit more renewable energy "raises really big questions we've never had before," said one expert. Photo courtesy of the Office of Management and Budget.

"There are two philosophies. One is where one entity does it for everybody," he said. "The group agreed [instead] that interconnection-wide analysis was best handled by the regional plans already being developed, rolling them into one, and building an interconnection-wide analysis over that."

"It makes sense to have regional transmission organizations, transmission planners, owners and others work together and build on the current work being done in regional planning efforts," said Entergy spokesman Michael Burns.

The group will make an initial report in several months, Whiteley said.

Concerns about 2 grid-expansion bills

The participants in the Atlanta meeting came together after two transmission expansion plans were offered in the Senate, one by Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid (D-Nev.) and the other by Sen. Jeff Bingaman (D-N.M.), chairman of the Energy and Natural Resources Committee.

Both would create new transmission planning processes for the Eastern and Western interconnection grids, which are divided by the Rocky Mountains. Bingaman's bill, for example, would authorize the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission to designate a regional planning organization in each interconnection. Each new organization would prepare a plan for building new high-voltage lines to accommodate a twentyfold increase in wind, solar and other renewable power that is a key part of Democratic Party leaders' energy strategies.

Rep. Jay Inslee (D-Wash.) expects to introduce his version of a transmission bill Thursday. A draft of the bill would authorize the states in each interconnection to set up a new Multistate Transmission Authority. The costs of the new planning operations would be funded by a federal surcharge on electricity bills of up to \$80 million annually. The legislative proposals call for cooperative planning involving the grid managers and energy companies, but place final planning authority at the federal level. If transmission plans are not forthcoming on schedule, FERC would take over.

Bingaman will present a new version of the transmission bill to the Energy and Natural Resources Committee tomorrow. It is expected to respond to senators' concerns about federal grid planning authority, Senate aides said. "There is a major issue in letting states come up with solutions before any federal authority would take over, and not trampling over states' rights," said Robert Dillon, an aide to Sen. Lisa Murkowski (Alaska), the Senate Energy committee's ranking Republican. "We understand they've made some changes to address that."

Whiteley said the group members recognize that FERC will have to have final planning oversight. "There needs to be an ultimate decider at that level," he said. But the planning of grid operations on the state and regional levels is already hugely complex. Interconnection planning should be built from the bottom up, he added.

"If you don't get the regions right, you can't get the interconnection right," said Peter Fox-Penner, a principal of the Brattle Group, which has analyzed the integration of renewable power into the grid in several regions. "Realistically, even if you told a federal planning entity to do an interconnection plan, you'd have to break it up into regional computer runs and then harmonize them."

An initial analysis of linking new wind and solar power into the Eastern Interconnection was issued this year by the Joint Coordinated System Plan, whose members included PJM, the Tennessee Valley Authority and Midwest ISO. The study concluded that 15,000 miles of new high-voltage transmission lines would have to be added, at a cost of \$80

billion, to supply 20 percent of the Eastern Interconnection's electricity needs with renewable power in 2024. But the plan's author said that its computer analysis was not detailed enough to establish that the resulting network could be run reliably and economically.

'The list of names is growing'

"We have really big questions we've never had before, in terms of integrating new resources and new technologies," Whiteley said.

Advocates of renewable electricity fear that its development will be thwarted unless a new transmission planning process is created that can overcome resistance from utilities that don't welcome competition from wind or solar power outside their territories.

Although FERC's legal authority over interstate transmission lines and wholesale electricity sales is undisputed, its earlier attempt to tighten federal rules on energy companies' transmission networks was blocked in Congress by allies of power suppliers in the Southeast and Northwest. The groundswell of support for renewable energy has made transmission grid expansion a top priority, but the issue of federal control appears far from settled.

"It's a completely different story when you're talking about federal planning authority," said Kevin Kolevar, a principal with ClearView Energy Partners LLC and the former head of Energy Department's transmission office in the Bush administration. "There isn't a capacity here to undertake that now. FERC can't do that. The DOE can't do that." A new federal grid planning operation would take several years to get going, he said.

Whiteley said the group is not planning to lobby Congress on its position. "We're not going to come to a conclusion over legislation. That's up to the individual companies," he said.

The group discussed whether to seek an Energy Department grant from the \$80 million provided in the 2009 stimulus bill for transmission network planning, but has not decided whether to do so.

The Atlanta meeting is "just the start," Whiteley said. "The list of names is growing, and the interest from other regional planning entities is growing. I've not heard of anybody in the East involved in regional planning who's said this is the wrong way to go."