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Status Report on Power Reactors

Rapport d'étape sur les centrales

nucléaires

This document summarizes the status of the Power Reactor facilities as of December 2, 2020.

Ce rapport résume le rapport d'étape sur les centrales nucléaires en date du 2 décembre 2020.

Signed on / Signé le 2020-12-02

Alexandre Viktorov, Ph.D. Director General, Directorate of Power Reactor Regulation Directeur général, Direction de la réglementation des centrales nucléaires This page intentionally left blank

1. Power Reactors Status as of December 2, 2020

1.1 Bruce A and B

Operational Status

Unit 1 is at Full Power.

Unit 2 is at Full Power.

Unit 3 is at Full Power.

Unit 4 is at Full Power.

Unit 5 is at Full Power.

Unit 6 is Shut Down for Major Component Replacement (MCR).

Unit 7 is at Full Power.

Unit 8 is Shut Down.

Licensing

Power Reactor Operating Licence expires on September 30, 2028. Previous Status Report CMD incorrectly stated August 31, 2028.

Comments

Unit 6 Major Component Replacement (MCR) started in January 2020. Lower feeders have been removed; upper feeder removal is in progress.

Unit 8 is shut down for a planned outage.

Event Notifications and Updates

None.

Actions from previous Commission meetings

None.

1.2 Darlington

Operational Status

Unit 1 is at Full Power.

Unit 2 is at Full Power.

Unit 3 is Shut Down for Refurbishment.

Unit 4 is at 59% of Full Power.

Licensing

Power Reactor Operating Licence expires on November 30, 2025.

Comments

Unit 3 refurbishment started in September 2020. All fuel was removed from the reactor in November 2020.

Unit 4 reactor power has been reduced to 59% to support bulkhead installation on Unit 3.

Event Notifications and Updates

None.

Actions from previous Commission meetings

None.

1.3 Pickering

Operational Status

Unit 1 is at 88% of Full Power.

Unit 2 is in a Safe Storage State.

Unit 3 is in a Safe Storage State.

Unit 4 is Shut Down.

Unit 5 is at Full Power.

Unit 6 is Shut Down.

Unit 7 is at Full Power.

Unit 8 is at 97% of Full Power.

Licensing

Power Reactor Operating Licence expires on August 31, 2028.

Comments

Unit 1 is de-rated to 88% of Full Power due to fuelling deficit. Fuelling machines are unavailable due to planned outage.

Unit 8 is de-rated to 97% FP due to reduced Regional Overpower Protection (ROP) margins during fuelling. Target for full power is November 30th.

Unit 4 is in planned maintenance outage.

Unit 6 is in planned maintenance outage.

Event Notifications and Updates

None.

Actions from previous Commission meetings

Potassium Iodide (KI) Pill Working Group update:

- The KI Pill Working Group held a meeting on September 2, 2020 to discuss the next steps and path forward on seeking concurrence on the draft Phase I report before moving to the public review phase. Taking into consideration member's involvement in the COVID response, members' agreed to a 60-day final review period for additional comments and concurrence on the draft Phase I report.
- Final comments by Working Group members on the draft Phase I report were received by November 18, 2020.
- All comments have been addressed, and the revised draft Phase I report was sent to all Working Group members on November 30, 2020 for concurrence (one week).
- Following concurrence on the draft Phase I report by all Working Group members, it will be translated and posted on the Working Group webpage for a 45-day public review period. (https://www.nuclearsafety.gc.ca/eng/resources/emergency-management-and-safety/potassium-iodide-pill-working-group.cfm)

1.4 Point Lepreau

Operational Status

The unit is at Full Power.

Licensing

Power Reactor Operating Licence expires on June 30, 2022.

Comments

None.

Event Notifications and Updates

None.

Actions from previous Commission meetings

None.

1.5 Other

Power Reactor Regulatory Program (PRRP) COVID-19 Activities

Compliance

CNSC staff continue their oversight, by having access to the licensees Virtual Private Network (VPN), attending meetings and regular surveillance activities. Routine inspections are being conducted on sites, with remote subject matter expert support. The CNSC Point Lepreau site office ceased all on-site activities for the week of November 21 due to an outbreak in Saint John.

To date CNSC staff have not identified any non-compliances caused by the pandemic and conclude that licensee performance has been effective in controlling the spread of COVID-19 at the NPP's.

Licensing

DPRR continues to ensure all licensing activities are completed in support of continued safe operation of all Canadian NPPs.

International Collaboration

CNSC management and staff continue to collaborate internationally with other regulators through organizations such as the International Atomic Energy Agency, the International Nuclear Regulators Association, the CANDU Senior Regulators Meeting and the Committee on Nuclear Regulatory Activities (CNRA) of the Nuclear Energy Agency (NEA). CNSC staff actively participate and share regulatory practices and experience through multinational working groups such as the NEA's Working Group on Inspection Practices (WGIP). These activities allow benchmarking of the CNSC processes and benefitting from the peers' lessons learnt.

Licensee COVID-19 Activities

Business Continuity Plan Status

All licensees have active business continuity plans (BCP) in effect. Licensees have protocols in place for responding to positive test results for their workers and report to CNSC regularly. CNSC staff are monitoring and evaluating licensees' COVID-19 responses and are satisfied with the current provisions.

Bruce Power

Bruce County is now considered a provincial Yellow Zone.

Bruce Power currently has 4 active cases, 13 recovered cases and 3 staff self-isolating due to close contact with co-workers. There has been no workplace transfer of COVID-19 and no impact on minimum shift complement or the safe operation of the units. CNSC staff are satisfied with the measures taken by Bruce Power.

Ontario Power Generation

Durham Region is currently in the Red Zone - Control phase of the Ontario provincial COVID-19 Response Framework. OPG is working closely with the Durham Region Health Department.

Two employees at the Pickering Nuclear Generating Station (NGS) have tested positive for COVID-19 (declared on November 25th). Since they work within the same workgroup, Public Health declared the site to have an outbreak. OPG has notified all personnel working within the affected workplace at the time, and cleaning of the work area. There has been no impact on the station operations. Public Health conducts extensive case management and contact tracing.

Point Lepreau

There was one positive case at Point Lepreau NGS; this case did not have an impact on station operation or minimum shift complement. Enhanced measures have been established to ensure the safety and well-being of all station staff, which include:

- The re-activation of an augmented Incident Command Section to support managing COVID-19 in coordination with the COVID Response Team and Corporate Incident Command.
- Requesting that all non-essential staff work remotely, thereby reducing the number of site staff to those supporting essential activities only.

As a result of the positive COVID-19 case within Point Lepreau NGS staff, all close contact individuals have been notified and are self-isolating with direct follow-up and monitoring by Public Health. This includes return to work plans in coordination with Public Health and the stations COVID Response Team. It was determined that the individual who tested positive contracted the virus off-site.

CNSC staff is satisfied with the response and the protective measures taken by NB Power. CNSC staff will continue to perform enhanced surveillance and monitoring.