PPL Susquehanna Shuts Down Unit 2 Reactor to Repair Battery Charger

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Operators shut down the Unit 2 reactor at the Susquehanna nuclear power plant Sunday (4/10) to repair a battery charger that is part of the plant's electrical system.

"Operators reduced power gradually over a period of several hours, and shut down the reactor safely. Workers already have begun repairing the battery charger and are conducting a thorough inspection of the Unit 2 direct current electrical system," said Robert A. Saccone, vice president-Nuclear Operations for PPL Susquehanna, the plant's operator.

When plant operators verified that one of the battery chargers that are part of the Unit 2 electrical system was not working properly, and that plant workers could not complete repairs within a specified period of time, they began to shut down the reactor as called for in the plant's procedures.

"Safety drives every aspect of our operations," Saccone said. "We will repair the charger, and perform all necessary inspections and testing and verify the problem is fully resolved before we restart the reactor and resume generating electricity."

The battery charger is located in a non-nuclear area of the plant. Unit 1 at Susquehanna continues to operate at 100 percent power.

The two-unit Susquehanna plant, located about seven miles north of Berwick, Pa., is owned jointly by PPL Susquehanna LLC and Allegheny Electric Cooperative Inc.

PPL Susquehanna is one of PPL Corporation's generating facilities. Headquartered in Allentown, Pa., PPL Corporation (NYSE: PPL) controls more than 12,000 megawatts of generating capacity in the United States, sells energy in key U.S. markets and delivers electricity to nearly five million customers in Pennsylvania, the United Kingdom and Latin America. More information is available at http://www.pplweb.com/.

SOURCE: PPL Corporation

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