

'Unusual Event' Declared at PPL's Susquehanna Nuclear Power Plant

PRNewswire
BERWICK, Pa.

An "unusual event" was declared at PPL's Susquehanna nuclear power plant in Luzerne County near Berwick, Pa., at 3:15 a.m. EST on Thursday (10/03) because of a fire in a start-up transformer on Unit 2.

At 2:30 a.m. the plant's control room was notified of the fire. The plant's fire protection brigade responded immediately and the plant's automatic fire suppression system quickly put out the fire.

"Our plant employees responded promptly to the event and followed the emergency procedures that they train for all year long," said Herbert D. Woodeshick, special assistant to the president for PPL Susquehanna.

Woodeshick also noted that no plant personnel were injured.

Unit 2 was in the process of restarting following an automatic shutdown earlier this week. Unit 1 continues to operate at 100 percent power.

An unusual event means a minor problem has occurred at the plant that could reduce plant safety. No action by the general public is required. An unusual event is the lowest of the four emergency classifications established by the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission for nuclear power plants.

PPL has notified Luzerne and Columbia county emergency management agencies, as well as the Pennsylvania Emergency Management Agency, which are coordinating support services as needed. The company also has notified the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

The Susquehanna plant, located in Luzerne County about seven miles north of Berwick, is owned jointly by PPL Susquehanna LLC and Allegheny Electric Cooperative Inc. and is operated by PPL Susquehanna.

PPL has activated its Media Operations Center at the Susquehanna Energy Information Center along Route 11, seven miles north of Berwick. The phone number is 570-759-2285.

PPL Susquehanna LLC is a member of the PPL family of companies. PPL Corporation is a global energy company headquartered in Allentown, Pa.

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