



**Northeast
Nuclear Energy**

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April 26, 2000
B18109

The Northeast Utilities System

U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Attention: Document Control Desk
Washington, DC 20555-0001

Subject: Millstone Nuclear Power Station, Unit No. 1, Docket No. 50-245
Licensee Event Report (LER) 2000-01-00

This letter forwards Licensee Event Report 2000-01-00 (Attachment 1), documenting an event that occurred at Millstone Unit 1 on March 28, 2000. This LER is submitted pursuant to 10CFR50.73(a)(2)(i).

If you have any questions regarding this letter, please contact Mr. Bryan S. Ford at (860) 437-5895.

Very truly yours,

NORTHEAST NUCLEAR ENERGY COMPANY

Larry G. Temple
Unit 1 General Manager

cc: H. J. Miller, Region I Administrator
L. L. Wheeler, NRC Senior Project Manager, Millstone Unit No. 1
P. C. Cataldo, Resident Inspector, Millstone Unit No. 1

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Attachment 1 to B18109

Millstone Nuclear Power Station, Unit No. 1, Docket No. 50-245

Licensee Event Report (LER) 2000-01-00

FACILITY NAME (1) Millstone Nuclear Power Station Unit 1		DOCKET NUMBER (2) 05000245	PAGE (3) 1 OF 3
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TITLE (4)
Fuel Pool Level Technical Specification Surveillance Missed Due To Inadequate Work Practices

EVENT DATE (5)			LER NUMBER (6)			REPORT DATE (7)			OTHER FACILITIES INVOLVED (8)	
MONTH	DAY	YEAR	YEAR	SEQUENTIAL NUMBER	REVISION NUMBER	MONTH	DAY	YEAR	FACILITY NAME	DOCKET NUMBER
03	28	2000	2000	-- 001	-- 00	04	26	2000	FACILITY NAME	DOCKET NUMBER

OPERATING MODE (9)	THIS REPORT IS SUBMITTED PURSUANT TO THE REQUIREMENTS OF 10 CFR §: (Check one or more) (11)									
	20.2201(b)	20.2203(a)(2)(v)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	50.73(a)(2)(i)	50.73(a)(2)(viii)					
POWER LEVEL (10)	20.2203(a)(1)	20.2203(a)(3)(i)		50.73(a)(2)(ii)	50.73(a)(2)(x)					
	20.2203(a)(2)(i)	20.2203(a)(3)(ii)		50.73(a)(2)(iii)	73.71					
	20.2203(a)(2)(ii)	20.2203(a)(4)		50.73(a)(2)(iv)	OTHER					
	20.2203(a)(2)(iii)	50.36(c)(1)		50.73(a)(2)(v)	Specify in Abstract below of in NRC Form 366A					
	20.2203(a)(2)(iv)	50.36(c)(2)		50.73(a)(2)(vii)						

LICENSEE CONTACT FOR THIS LER (12)

NAME Bryan Ford	TELEPHONE NUMBER (Include Area Code) (860) 437-5895
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COMPLETE ONE LINE FOR EACH COMPONENT FAILURE DESCRIBED IN THIS REPORT (13)

CAUSE	SYSTEM	COMPONENT	MANUFACTURER	REPORTABLE TO EPIX	CAUSE	SYSTEM	COMPONENT	MANUFACTURER	REPORTABLE TO EPIX

SUPPLEMENTAL REPORT EXPECTED (14)				EXPECTED SUBMISSION DATE (15)	MONTH	DAY	YEAR
YES (If yes, complete EXPECTED SUBMISSION DATE).	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NO					

ABSTRACT (Limit to 1400 spaces, i.e., approximately 15 single-spaced typewritten lines) (16)

On March 28, 2000, with the unit in a PERMANENTLY DEFUELED CONDITION, it was discovered that the fuel storage pool level had not been recorded in accordance with Surveillance Requirement 4.10.C. The Surveillance Requirement specifies that the level be recorded daily whenever irradiated fuel is stored in the pool. Contrary to this requirement the pool level was not recorded for 33 hours, even though the pool level was monitored and discussed by the shift.

The cause of the event is inadequate work practices in that the individuals responsible for completion and review of the surveillance did not perform their duties as required.

The spent fuel pool level was maintained more than 4 feet above the Technical Specification limit during entire period of concern. An alarm would have sounded in the Control Room had the spent fuel pool level approached the limit.

The corrective actions include coaching and counseling of the personnel involved in the event; reviewing the event with Unit 1 Operations personnel; and reinforcing with Unit 1 Operations personnel the expectations to review of control room logs and to complete priority control room tasks.

LICENSEE EVENT REPORT (LER) TEXT CONTINUATION

FACILITY NAME (1)	DOCKET	LER NUMBER (6)			PAGE (3)
Millstone Nuclear Power Station Unit 1	05000245	YEAR	SEQUENTIAL NUMBER	REVISION NUMBER	2 OF 3
		2000	-- 001 --	00	

TEXT (If more space is required, use additional copies of NRC Form 366A) (17)

I. Description of Event

On March 28, 2000, with the unit in a PERMANENTLY DEFUELED CONDITION, it was discovered that the fuel storage pool level had not been recorded in accordance with Surveillance Requirement 4.10.C. The Surveillance Requirement specifies that the level be recorded daily whenever irradiated fuel is stored in the pool. Contrary to this requirement the pool level was not recorded for 33 hours, even though the pool level was monitored and discussed by the shift.

This condition is being reported in accordance with 10 CFR 50.73(a)(2)(i)(B), as an operation or condition prohibited by the plant's Technical Specifications.

II. Cause of Event

The cause of the event was inadequate work practices. The completion of the surveillance requirement is documented as part of an operators log procedure. The individuals responsible for completion and review of the surveillance did not perform their duties as required. The day shift Control Operator completing the form did not record all the 0800 - 1200 readings. The day shift Shift Manager reviewing the log allowed himself to be distracted and did not complete the review.

III. Analysis of Event

SP 696.1-001A," Control Operators Log," specifies a total of 18 items which must be checked daily to meet Technical Specification and regulatory requirements or management expectations. A number of these items must be recorded by both the day shift and the night shift. Twelve of the items must be recorded by the day shift between the hours of 0800 and 1200. Ten of the twelve items to be recorded between 0800 and 1200 appear on the second page of the log while two of the twelve items appear on the third page of the logs along with the remaining night shift items.

The fuel pool level surveillance was satisfactorily performed by the control operator involved in the event between 0800 and 1200 on March 27, 2000. On March 28, 2000, the control operator started taking the reading at approximately 0900 and completed the required readings for the 0800-1200 period on the second page of the procedure but neglected to record the two 0800-1200 items on the third page. The pool level reading was on the third page. The control operator could not specifically identify why he did not record the two missed items. The control operator had covered fuel pool level during the shift briefing and also reported that he had observed fuel pool level a number of times throughout the day but neglected to record the value.

An additional check to verify whether the surveillance was completed is performed when the Shift Manager checks the logs at the end of the shift. On March 28, 2000, SP 696.1-001A was not signed by the day shift Shift Manager; therefore, the verification that the fuel pool level had been recorded did not occur. The day shift Shift Manager began reviewing the logs but was interrupted and did not complete the review.

The missed surveillance was discovered during the completion and review of the Control Operator Logs by the night shift. The fuel pool level recorder chart paper was reviewed and it was verified that fuel pool level was above the 33 foot LCO limit specified in Technical Specifications at all times. No change in fuel pool level was noted during the time period of concern.

There were no consequences as a result of this event in that fuel pool level remained more than 4 feet above the regulatory limit during the time period of concern. If the spent fuel pool level had approached the regulatory limit an

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TEXT CONTINUATION

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TEXT (If more space is required, use additional copies of NRC Form 366A) (17)

alarm would have sounded in the Control Room to alert the operators. The loss of fuel pool level is an event covered under Unit 1 Off Normal Procedures.

IV. Corrective Action

As a result of this event, the following actions have been, or will be, performed.

1. The event has been reviewed with the Operations department shift personnel including a discussion of barriers that should have been in place and why they failed.
2. Personnel involved in the event have received coaching and counseling in accordance with the applicable Millstone policies and procedures.
3. Expectations will be reinforced with Unit 1 Operations personnel to ensure they are thorough in their review of control room logs and that distractions do not compromise their ability to monitor and complete priority control room tasks. This corrective action will be implemented during the next operator training cycle, which will be completed by June 30, 2000.

V. Additional Information

Similar Events

LER 1999-01-00: "Stack Gas Sample Flow Surveillance Missed" and its associated root cause also documents a missed surveillance. The stack gas sample flow surveillance is a conditional Technical Specification surveillance which must be performed when the stack flow monitor is inoperable. The surveillance was not taken at the required frequency due to personnel error in that plant personnel did not maintain proper focus on plant operations and perform self checking (STAR) when resetting the timer alarm. All the corrective actions for this LER have been completed. The actions addressed the monitoring of conditional surveillance's and those individuals who were not frequent watchstanders.