

An Exelon/British Energy Company

AmerGen Energy Company, LLC Oyster Creek US Route 9 South P.O. Box 388 Forked River, NJ 08731-0388

January 30, 2001 2130-01-20020

U. S. Nuclear Regulatory CommissionAttn: Document Control DeskWashington DC 20555

Dear Sir:

Subject:

Oyster Creek Generating Station

Docket No. 50-219

Licensee Event Report 00-010, Rev. 1: Local Leak Rate Test Results in

Excess of Technical Specification Limits

Due to Component Wear

Enclosed is Licensee Event Report LER 00-010, Revision 1. The changed sections are indicated by a bar in the right margin. This event did not affect the health and safety of the public.

Revision 0 of this LER documented the first excessive leak rate of the Refueling Outage 18R Local Leak Rate Testing Program. This leak rate was not considered to be a functional failure as defined by the NRC's Performance Indicator criteria. This revision to the LER includes all reportable leaks identified during the 18R leak rate test program.

If any additional information or assistance is required, please contact Mr. John Rogers of my staff at 609.971.4893.

Very truly yours,

Ron J. DeGregorio

Vice President, Oyster Creek

RJD/JJR

cc: Adr

Administrator, Region I NRC Project Manager Senior Resident Inspector

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NRC FORM 366 (4-95) APPROVED BY CMB NO. 3150-0104 EXPIRES 04/30/98 ESTIMATED BURDEN PER RESPONSE TO COMPLY WITH THIS MANDATORY INFORMATION COLLECTION REQUEST: 50.0 HRS. REPORTED LESSONS INFORMATION CONCESTS AND FEE TO INDUSTRY. FORWARD COMMENTS REGARDING BURDEN ESTIMATE TO INDUSTRY.																	
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ABSTRACT (Limit to 1400 spaces, i.e., approximately 15 single-spaced typewritten lines) (16)

On October 14, 2000, Local Leak Rate Testing (LLRT) results indicated that Main Steam Isolation Valve V-1-0010 exceeded the Technical Specification leak rate limit of .05(.75)L_a at 35 psig (equivalent to 15.98 SCFH). The leak was quantified as 21.72 SCFH at 35 psig. The cause of this occurrence was component wear. The valve was repaired and the as-left leak rate was 4.24 SCFH.

Additionally, four containment isolation valves in two penetrations were removed from the plant with no as-found LLRT data collected. This was due to a change in the scheduled maintenance on the valves. The four removed valves had successfully passed their five previous as-found LLRTs with no maintenance.

The safety significance of these events is considered minimal. The total penetration leakage would have been limited by Main Steam Isolation Valve V-1-0008 in the same steam header. The leakage past V-1-0008 was quantified at 7.7 SCFH.

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Additionally, four containment isolation valves in two penetrations were removed from the plant with no as-found LLRT data collected. This was due to a change in the scheduled maintenance on the valves. The four removed valves had successfully passed their five previous as-found LLRTs with no maintenance.

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FACILITY NAME (1)	DOCKET (2)	LER NUMBER (6) PAGE (3)
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Oyster Creek, Unit 1	-219	00 10 01 2 of 4

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DATE OF DISCOVERY

The events being reported were discovered commencing October 14, 2000.

IDENTIFICATION OF OCCURRENCE

Main Steam Isolation Valve (MSIV) V-1-0010 (EIIS SB-ISV) exceeded the leak rate criteria specified in Technical Specification 4.5.D.2. Additionally, four containment isolation valves were removed from the plant prior to being local leak rate tested. These conditions are considered to be reportable in accordance with 10 CFR 50.73(a)(2)(i).

CONDITIONS PRIOR TO DISCOVERY

The plant was in a cold shutdown condition for a refueling outage when these conditions were discovered.

DESCRIPTION OF OCCURRENCE

On October 14, 2000, Local Leak Rate Testing (LLRT) results indicated that Main Steam Isolation Valve V-1-0010 exceeded the Technical Specification leak rate limit of .05(.75) L_a at 35 psig (equivalent to 15.98 SCFH). The leak was quantified as 21.72 SCFH at 35 psig. Additionally, four containment isolation valves in two penetrations were replaced (V-38-0016, 0017, 0022, 0023) without obtaining as-found local leak rate test data.

APPARENT CAUSE OF OCCURRENCE

The cause of the MSIV leakage was component wear. Poppet vibration in the open position resulted in excessive rib wear. This MSIV had previously exceeded Technical Specification limits during testing in the 15R refueling outage, but had successfully passed LLRT in both 16R and 17R.

Additionally, four isolation valve solenoids were scheduled for replacement in 18R. It was subsequently decided to replace the entire valve assembly. The older valves were removed and damaged during replacement without an as-found LLRT. The cause of the omission was a weakness in the work planning process. When the scope of the work was increased, the valves were not properly identified as needing an as-found LLRT.

FACILITY NAME (1)	DOCKET (2)	LER NUMBER (6)	PAGE (3)
	05000	YEAR SEQUENTIAL REV NUMBER	
Oyster Creek, Unit 1	-219	00 010 01	3 of 4

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

ANALYSIS OF OCCURRENCE AND SAFETY SIGNIFICANCE

The MSIVs are containment isolation valves designed to minimize coolant loss from the vessel, and the resultant offsite dose, in the event of a main steamline break accident. The design basis loss of coolant accident was evaluated at the primary containment maximum allowable accident leak rate of 1.0% per day at an initial pressure of 35 psig which decays to 1.0 psig after 2.5 hours. The 1.0 psig is assumed to remain for the next 21.5 hours. This leakage provides adequate margin between projected potential offsite dose and 10 CFR 100 guidelines. This projected dose was not exceeded.

The analysis for the contribution of MSIV leakage to control room habitability was reviewed. Although the total radiation which might have been released through this pathway was slightly above the existing calculated values, the potential dose received by the operators would have increased by approximately 3%, which would have been approximately 100 mrem TEDE. This remains well below the 5 rem TEDE requirement. Additionally, a new calculation has resulted in an approximate 4% decrease in the expected operator dose. Therefore, even with the increased leakage, the calculated dose to the operator has gone down.

The safety significance of this event is considered minimal. The leakage past the MSIV would have been limited by the leak rate of the other MSIV in the same header which met the leak rate acceptance criteria of Technical Specification 4.5.D.2.

The four valves which were removed without an as-found LLRT had successfully passed the previous five LLRTs without maintenance. There was no indication of any leakage during previous plant operations. NEI 94-01, "Industry Guideline for Implementing Performance Based Option of Appendix J", Section 9.2.1, allows valves on an extended surveillance interval which are not leak tested during an outage to be assigned the as-left values from the previous outage. The 17R as-left values were used in the 18R as-found Integrated Leak Rate calculation.

NRC FORM 366A

(4-95)

LICENSEE EVENT REPORT (LER)

TEXT CONTINUATION

FACILITY NAME (1)	LER NUMBER (6)	PAGE (3)	
	05000	YEAR SEQUENTIAL REV NUMBER	
Oyster Creek, Unit 1	-219	00 010 01	4 of 4

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

CORRECTIVE ACTIONS

The MSIV was inspected and repaired. The as-left leakage was 4.24 SCFH. The four valves removed without testing were replaced. The replacement valves all passed LLRT. The four newly installed valves have been assigned the shorter 30 month surveillance interval.

To ensure that all valves requiring leak rate testing will receive the proper tests, directions will be added to the Planners Desktop Guide. This will require a review of applicable work packages to determine if seat leakage could be affected by the work scope. Additionally, this concern with the omitted tests was discussed with the planners and emphasis was placed on the need to fully evaluate changes in planned maintenance. Finally, the computer software which did not provide the level of visibility to highlight the omitted testing is being replaced. The new software is presently scheduled for release during the second quarter of 2001, with training on the new software occurring during the first and second quarters of 2001.

SIMILAR EVENTS

LER 98-013: Local Leak Rate Test Results in Excess of Technical Specification Limits