



SEP 19 2001

LRN-01-0303

United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Document Control Desk
Washington, DC 20555

Special Report 311/01-005
Salem Nuclear Generating Station Unit No. 2
Facility Operating License DPR-70
Docket No. 50-311

Gentlemen:

This special report is being submitted pursuant to the requirements of Technical Specification 3.3.3.1b Action 26 and Specification 6.9.2. Action 26 requires that a special report be submitted within fourteen days of initial inoperability if the component is not returned to operable within seven days.

Should there be any questions regarding this matter please contact E. H. Villar at 856-339-5456.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "D. F. Garchow".

D. F. Garchow
Vice President - Operations

Attachments (1)

C Administrator- Region I
United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission
474 Allendale Road
King of Prussia, PA 19406

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Description of Occurrence

On September 6, 2001, a notification was issued to document the inoperability of the 2R15 Radiation Monitor. The 2R15 was declared inoperable based on erratic flow indication and there appeared to be water in the flow sight glass.

Technical Specification 3.3.3.1b action 26 was entered at 0900 hours on September 6, 2001. Action 26 requires that:

“With the number of OPERABLE Channels less than required by the Minimum Channels OPERABLE requirements, initiate the preplanned alternate method of monitoring the appropriate parameter(s), within 72 hours, and:

- 1) either restore the inoperable Channel(s) to OPERABLE status within 7 days of the event, or
- 2) prepare and submit a Special Report to the Commission pursuant to Specification 6.9.2 within 14 days following the event outlining the action taken, the cause of the inoperability and the plans and schedule for restoring the system to OPERABLE status.”

The 2R15 monitor was not returned to operable status by September 13, 2001. Therefore, this special report is being submitted within fourteen days of September 6, 2001, as required by Technical Specification 3.3.3.1 b action 26.

Immediate Actions Taken

As required by Action 26, the required preplanned alternate method of monitoring was initiated on September 6, 2001, and a corrective maintenance work order was initiated.

Cause of the Inoperability And Corrective Actions Taken

As stated in the description section of this report, the 2R15 was declared inoperable based on erratic flow indication and there appeared to be water in the flow sight glass.

Original investigation and troubleshooting by PSEG Instrument and Control (I/C) department revealed that the 2R15 sample line had filled with water. The water intrusion into the sample line was attributed to a slug of water introduced when returning a condenser vacuum pump to service. The 2R15 sample line was drained and dried and the detector returned to service on September 12, however

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the 2R15 detector and sample line continued to show moisture.

Further investigation by PSEG maintenance and I/C personnel attributed the continued moisture intrusion to water possibly being routed through the vacuum pump into the exhaust header. To this extent work orders have been initiated to clean the vacuum pumps seal water heat exchangers, and clean and inspect the drain line of the priming tank. Because the priming tank drain line is made of carbon steel and has a loop seal drain, the priming tank drain is subject to clogging with rust. It is expected that completion of these activities will eliminate the moisture intrusion and return the 2R15 to an operable status.

Plans for Return to Operable Status

It is anticipated that the 2R15 detector will be returned to operable by September 28, 2001, when the corrective actions stated above are expected to be completed.

The actions cited above are voluntary and do not constitute commitments.