

PRIORITY ATTENTION REQUIRED MORNING REPORT - REGION I JULY 29, 1994

Licensee/Facility:
Northeast Utilities
Millstone 2
Waterford, Connecticut

Notification:
MR Number: 1-94-0086
Date: 07/28/94
RI PC

Dockets: 50-336
PWR/CE

Subject: PLANT SHUTDOWN DUE TO REACTOR COOLANT PUMP OIL LEAK

Reportable Event Number: 27590

Discussion:

On July 27, 1994, at 6:00 a.m., the licensee commenced a controlled plant shutdown of Unit 2 due to the potential for a fire in containment, and to evaluate the adequacy of the reactor coolant pump (RCP) oil collection system.

At approximately 5:30 p.m. on July 26, three separate control room alarms indicated potential abnormal conditions in the 'A' RCP lube oil upper bearing area. Operators increased flow to the upper bearing area and cleared the alarms. At approximately 5:00 a.m. on July 27, the 'A' RCP lube oil low flow alarm annunciated and operators commenced a controlled shutdown in accordance with procedures. The licensee performed two on-line visual inspections of all RCPs on the morning of July 27, and found that leaking oil had dripped from the tops of the 'A' and 'D' RCP motors, coating the sides of the motors. Most of the leakage was contained by the oil collection drip plans. However, a small amount (1

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than one-half gallon) of leaked oil had not been collected by the 'A' RCP oil collection system, as required by 10 CFR 50 Appendix R. This stray leakage flowed from the motor surface to attached pipes and cables leading away from the motor. It dripped from these sources onto reactor coolant system (RCS) mirror insulation. Based on the observed fire hazard inside containment, the licensee decided to shutdown the unit. The licensee was also concerned with the adequacy of the RCP oil collection system due to the lack of detailed information on the approved design criteria for this system, and the similarity of the design to that which failed to prevent a RCP oil fire in the containment of the licensee's Haddam Neck plant earlier in July 1994. At approximately 12:30 p.m. on July 27, the licensee notified local and state officials and the NRC that the RCP oil collection system did not meet the design requirements of 10 CFR 50 Appendix R. The licensee plans to evaluate the effectiveness and compliance of the RCP oil collection system and make repairs/modifications as necessary. During this planned 20-day outage, the licensee will also conduct 18-month surveillances that will come due before the scheduled refueling outage on September 16, 1994.

Regional Action:

A team of inspectors is reviewing the RCP oil collection problems at Haddam Neck. The results of that effort will be factored into the followup of the Millstone Unit 2 problems. The resident inspectors are following licensee activities on site. The region is also reviewing the

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status of previous inspections of Appendix R. Section III.0

implementation at all sites. NRR is preparing an Information Notice on

REGION I MORNING REPORT PAGE 2
MR Number: 1-94-0086 (cont.)

JULY 29, 1994

the Haddam Neck event.

Contact: Lawrence Doerflein (610) 337-5378
Paul Swetland (203) 447-3179