

PRIORITY ATTENTION REQUIRED MORNING REPORT - REGION I NOVEMBER 3, 1994

Licensee/Facility:

New Hampshire Yankee  
Seabrook 1  
Manchester, New Hampshire

Notification:

MR Number: 1-94-0123  
Date: 11/02/94  
SRI E-MAIL

Dockets: 50-443  
PWR/W-4-LP

Subject: UPDATE TO MR 1-94-0108: SENSITIZED STAINLESS STEEL BOLTING IN  
SERVICE WATER PUMPS

Reportable Event Number: 27973

Discussion:

Based on two severely degraded cooling tower pump column bolts, North Atlantic performed an operability evaluation for the service water pumps and established an aggressive repair plan to remove all six service water pumps, one at a time, to inspect and replace all pump bolting. The NR C reviewed the operability evaluation and repair plan and determined that the licensee's corrective actions were commensurate with the safety significance of the issue. Inspection of the four service water ocean pumps (SW-41-A,B,C,D) last month revealed no severely degraded bolts. Several column flange bolts were identified to have minor degradation due to intergranular corrosion.

On 11/1/94, North Atlantic removed the "A" service water cooling tower pump (SW-P-110A) to inspect and replace all existing bolting due to potentially severe degradation from an intergranular corrosion mechanism.

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Of 112 total submerged pump column bolts 45 bolts (40% of the total population) were severely degraded (12 bolts broke during removal). The operators immediately declared the "B" cooling tower pump inoperable placing the plant in a 72 hour shutdown limiting condition for operation (LCO) based on the condition of the "A" pump.

The maintenance staff replaced SW-P-110A with a rebuilt pump that had all new bolting. Following completion of the pump head curve verification and operability surveillance tests, the operators returned the pump to an operable status on 11/2. At that time, the 72 hour LCO was exited; however, the plant will maintain the 7 day LCO entered on 10/30/94 at 11:38 pm for SW-P-110A until the "B" cooling tower pump bolting is corrected. North Atlantic has committed to submit a final report to the NRC regional office to explain the failure mechanism and the bolt supplier implications.

Regional Action:

The resident inspectors observed the service water pump work to date, including visual examination of bolting on each pump. The NRR project manager is aware of the issue and has informed the Vendor Inspection Branch, relative to generic concerns. The severe bolt degradation seems to be limited to the cooling tower environment. The licensee is not planning on making a press release.

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