

January 16, 2003

Mr. Valeri Tolstykh
Regulatory Activities Unit
Safety Assessment Section
Division of Nuclear Installation Safety
International Atomic Energy Agency
Wagramer Strasse 5
P.O. Box 100, A-1400
Vienna, Austria

Dear Mr. Tolstykh:

The following operating experience reports from United States reactors are enclosed for your consideration for including in the AIRS database:

NRC INFORMATION NOTICE 2002-26: FAILURE OF STEAM DRYER COVER PLATE
AFTER A RECENT POWER UPRATE

NRC INFORMATION NOTICE 2002-27: RECENT FIRES AT COMMERCIAL NUCLEAR
POWER PLANTS IN THE UNITED STATES

NRC INFORMATION NOTICE 2002-29: RECENT DESIGN PROBLEMS IN SAFETY
FUNCTIONS OF PNEUMATIC SYSTEMS

NRC INFORMATION NOTICE 2002-34: FAILURE OF SAFETY-RELATED CIRCUIT
BREAKER EXTERNAL AUXILIARY SWITCHES AT COLUMBIA GENERATING STATION

Each report is being submitted in the following two media: (1) a hard copy of the input file for the AIRS database; and (2) a 3.5-inch HD diskette containing the input file for the AIRS database in Wordperfect format.

Mr. Valeri Tolstykh

- 2 -

January 16, 2003

If you have any questions regarding these reports, please call Jerry Dozier of my staff. He can be reached at 301-415-1014.

Sincerely,

/RA/

William D. Beckner, Program Director
Operating Reactor Improvements Program
Division of Regulatory Improvement Programs
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Enclosures: As stated

cc w/Enclosures:

Mr. Lennart Carlsson
Nuclear Safety Division
Nuclear Energy Agency
Organization for Economic
Cooperation and Development
Le Seine Saint Germain
12, Boulevard des Iles
92130, Issy-les-Moulineaux, France

Mr. Valeri Tolstykh

- 2 -

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OFFICE	RSE:OES:RORP:DRIP	IMA:OES:RORP:DRIP	SC:OES:RORP:DRIP	PD:RORP:DRIP
NAME	IJDozier	KAGray	TReis	WDBeckner
DATE	01/14/2003	01/14/2003	01/15/2003	01/16/2003

OFFICIAL RECORD COPY

INCIDENT REPORTING SYSTEM

IRS NO.	EVENT DATE	6/7/2002	DATE RECEIVED
EVENT TITLE			
NRC INFORMATION NOTICE 2002-26: FAILURE OF STEAM DRYER COVER PLATE AFTER A RECENT POWER UPRATE			
COUNTRY	PLANT AND UNIT	REACTOR TYPE	
USA	Quad Cities	BWR	
INITIAL STATUS	RATED POWER (MWe NET)		
	N/A		
DESIGNER	1st COMMERCIAL OPERATION		
GEC	3/10/1973		

ABSTRACT

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) is issuing this information notice to alert addressees to a recent failure of a steam dryer cover plate during operations following a power uprate at a boiling water reactor (BWR).

NRC INFORMATION NOTICE 2002-26

Please refer to the dictionary of codes corresponding to each of the sections below and to the coding guidelines manual.

1. <u>Reporting Categories:</u>	<u>1.3.1</u>	<u>1.4</u>	<u> </u>
2. <u>Plant Status Prior to the Event:</u>	<u>2.1.1</u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
3. <u>Failed/Affected Systems:</u>	<u>3.AC</u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
4. <u>Failed/Affected Components:</u>	<u>4.2.0</u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
5. <u>Cause of the Event:</u>	<u>5.1.1.3</u>	<u>5.1.1.4</u>	<u>5.1.1.5</u>
6. <u>Effects on Operation:</u>	<u>6.2</u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
7. <u>Characteristics of the Incident:</u>	<u>7.0</u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
8. <u>Nature of Failure or Error:</u>	<u>8.4</u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
9. <u>Nature of Recovery Actions:</u>	<u>9.0</u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

INCIDENT REPORTING SYSTEM

IRS NO.	EVENT DATE	2/3/2001	DATE RECEIVED
EVENT TITLE			
NRC INFORMATION NOTICE 2002-27: RECENT FIRES AT COMMERCIAL NUCLEAR POWER PLANTS IN THE UNITED STATES (SAN ONOFRE)			
COUNTRY	PLANT AND UNIT	REACTOR TYPE	
USA	San Onofre Unit 3	PWR	
INITIAL STATUS	RATED POWER (MWe NET)		
	N/A		
DESIGNER	1st COMMERCIAL OPERATION		
Combustion Engineering	4/1/1984		

ABSTRACT

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) is issuing this information notice (IN) to inform addressees of recent fire incidents at commercial nuclear power plants (NPPs) in the United States.

On February 3, 2001, SONGS Unit 3, was operating at 39-percent power following a refueling outage. While switching offsite power sources for Unit 3, a 4.16-kV breaker (3A0712) faulted and initiated a fire. This resulted in a loss of power to Unit 3 nonsafety-related systems, a reactor trip, a turbine/generator trip, and an automatic start of both Unit 3 emergency diesel generators (EDGs).

NRC INFORMATION NOTICE 2002-27

Please refer to the dictionary of codes corresponding to each of the sections below and to the coding guidelines manual.

- | | | | | |
|----|---|----------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| 1. | <u>Reporting Categories:</u> | <u>1.4</u> | <u>1.7</u> | <u> </u> |
| 2. | <u>Plant Status Prior to the Event:</u> | <u>2.1.3</u> | <u> </u> | <u> </u> |
| 3. | <u>Failed/Affected Systems:</u> | <u>3.EB</u> | <u> </u> | <u> </u> |
| 4. | <u>Failed/Affected Components:</u> | <u>4.3.2</u> | <u> </u> | <u> </u> |
| 5. | <u>Cause of the Event:</u> | <u>5.1.2.6</u> | <u>5.1.6.8</u> | <u>5.6.2</u> |
| 6. | <u>Effects on Operation:</u> | <u>6.1</u> | <u> </u> | <u> </u> |
| 7. | <u>Characteristics of the Incident:</u> | <u>7.11</u> | <u> </u> | <u> </u> |
| 8. | <u>Nature of Failure or Error:</u> | <u>8.4</u> | <u> </u> | <u> </u> |
| 9. | <u>Nature of Recovery Actions:</u> | <u>9.1</u> | <u> </u> | <u> </u> |

INCIDENT REPORTING SYSTEM

IRS NO. **EVENT DATE** **4/24/2001** **DATE RECEIVED**

EVENT TITLE

NRC INFORMATION NOTICE 2002-27: RECENT FIRES AT COMMERCIAL NUCLEAR POWER PLANTS IN THE UNITED STATES (POINT BEACH)

COUNTRY

USA

PLANT AND UNIT

Point Beach Unit 1

REACTOR TYPE

PWR

INITIAL STATUS

RATED POWER (MWe NET)

N/A

DESIGNER

Westinghouse 2 Loop

1st COMMERCIAL OPERATION

12/21/1970

ABSTRACT

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) is issuing this information notice (IN) to inform addressees of recent fire incidents at commercial nuclear power plants (NPPs) in the United States.

On April 24, 2001, while Point Beach Unit 1 was shut down and defueled for refueling outage U1R26, a fire occurred in the "A" steam generator (S/G) vault on the access platform to the primary side manway covers. The fire was believed to originate as the result of a short in a 12-Vdc communication box. The fire consumed a bag of rags and testing equipment debris, and lasted for approximately 23 minutes. After multiple failed attempts in which the fire brigade discharged approximately 70 pounds of dry chemical (3 portable fire extinguishers), the fire was finally extinguished using 15–20 gallons of water. The licensee reported that approximately 50 percent of the containment basement floor (8 feet elevation), 50 percent of the "A" S/G vault, and 30 percent of the "A" reactor coolant pump (RCP) vault were covered in white dust (dry chemical fire extinguishing agent). Also, a white dust layer was visible on components on the main refueling floor (66 feet elevation). Smoke and soot resulting from the fire left a mark about 4 feet wide by 25 feet high against the vault wall.

NRC INFORMATION NOTICE 2002-27

Please refer to the dictionary of codes corresponding to each of the sections below and to the coding guidelines manual.

- | | | | | |
|----|---|----------------|----------------|-------|
| 1. | <u>Reporting Categories:</u> | <u>1.4</u> | <u>1.7</u> | _____ |
| 2. | <u>Plant Status Prior to the Event:</u> | <u>2.3.2</u> | _____ | _____ |
| 3. | <u>Failed/Affected Systems:</u> | <u>3.EE</u> | _____ | _____ |
| 4. | <u>Failed/Affected Components:</u> | <u>4.0</u> | _____ | _____ |
| 5. | <u>Cause of the Event:</u> | <u>5.1.2.1</u> | <u>5.1.6.8</u> | _____ |
| 6. | <u>Effects on Operation:</u> | <u>6.0</u> | _____ | _____ |
| 7. | <u>Characteristics of the Incident:</u> | <u>7.0</u> | _____ | _____ |
| 8. | <u>Nature of Failure or Error:</u> | <u>8.3</u> | _____ | _____ |
| 9. | <u>Nature of Recovery Actions:</u> | <u>9.1</u> | _____ | _____ |

INCIDENT REPORTING SYSTEM

IRS NO.	EVENT DATE	8/3/2001	DATE RECEIVED
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EVENT TITLE

NRC INFORMATION NOTICE 2002-27: RECENT FIRES AT COMMERCIAL NUCLEAR POWER PLANTS IN THE UNITED STATES (PRAIRIE ISLAND)

COUNTRY

USA

PLANT AND UNIT

Prairie Island Unit 1

REACTOR TYPE

PWR

INITIAL STATUS

RATED POWER (MWe NET)

N/A

DESIGNER

Westinghouse 2 Loop

1st COMMERCIAL OPERATION

12/16/1973

ABSTRACT

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) is issuing this information notice (IN) to inform addressees of recent fire incidents at commercial nuclear power plants (NPPs) in the United States.

On August 3, 2001, at 8:44 p.m., an operator enroute to the Unit 1 bus 11/12 area observed fire and smoke. Fire caused a turbine trip.

NRC INFORMATION NOTICE 2002-27

Please refer to the dictionary of codes corresponding to each of the sections below and to the coding guidelines manual.

- | | | | | |
|----|---|----------------|----------------|-------|
| 1. | <u>Reporting Categories:</u> | <u>1.4</u> | <u>1.7</u> | _____ |
| 2. | <u>Plant Status Prior to the Event:</u> | <u>2.1.1</u> | _____ | _____ |
| 3. | <u>Failed/Affected Systems:</u> | <u>3.EB</u> | _____ | _____ |
| 4. | <u>Failed/Affected Components:</u> | <u>4.3.2</u> | _____ | _____ |
| 5. | <u>Cause of the Event:</u> | <u>5.1.2.4</u> | <u>5.1.6.8</u> | _____ |
| 6. | <u>Effects on Operation:</u> | <u>6.1.1</u> | _____ | _____ |
| 7. | <u>Characteristics of the Incident:</u> | <u>7.0</u> | _____ | _____ |
| 8. | <u>Nature of Failure or Error:</u> | <u>8.3</u> | _____ | _____ |
| 9. | <u>Nature of Recovery Actions:</u> | <u>9.1</u> | _____ | _____ |

INCIDENT REPORTING SYSTEM

IRS NO. **EVENT DATE** **12/19/2001** **DATE RECEIVED**

EVENT TITLE

NRC INFORMATION NOTICE 2002-27: RECENT FIRES AT COMMERCIAL NUCLEAR POWER PLANTS IN THE UNITED STATES (FORT CALHOUN)

COUNTRY

USA

PLANT AND UNIT

Fort Calhoun Unit 1

REACTOR TYPE

PWR

INITIAL STATUS

RATED POWER (MWe NET)

N/A

DESIGNER

Combustion Engineering

1st COMMERCIAL OPERATION

09/26/1973

ABSTRACT

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) is issuing this information notice (IN) to inform addressees of recent fire incidents at commercial nuclear power plants (NPPs) in the United States.

Licensee personnel performed unauthorized modifications to the male connections of two drum heaters, allowing them to be inserted into underrated outlets and extension cords, which ultimately caused the fire. The licensee concluded that the root cause of the fire was the modification of the male connection on a 2,000-watt drum heater. The plug on a second 2,000-watt drum heater was also found to be modified. This unauthorized modification defeated a manufactured safety device (electrical connector standards), thereby allowing the heaters to be energized using undersized extension cords and electrical outlets. On one of the plugs, a prong was twisted 90 degrees to make it similar to a 15-ampere plug. On the other heater, the plug was completely removed and replaced with a 15-ampere plug.

NRC INFORMATION NOTICE 2002-27

Please refer to the dictionary of codes corresponding to each of the sections below and to the coding guidelines manual.

- | | | | |
|--|----------------|----------------|-------|
| 1. <u>Reporting Categories:</u> | <u>1.4</u> | <u>1.7</u> | _____ |
| 2. <u>Plant Status Prior to the Event:</u> | <u>2.0</u> | _____ | _____ |
| 3. <u>Failed/Affected Systems:</u> | <u>3.Z</u> | _____ | _____ |
| 4. <u>Failed/Affected Components:</u> | <u>4.0</u> | _____ | _____ |
| 5. <u>Cause of the Event:</u> | <u>5.1.2.2</u> | <u>5.1.6.8</u> | _____ |
| 6. <u>Effects on Operation:</u> | <u>6.0</u> | _____ | _____ |
| 7. <u>Characteristics of the Incident:</u> | <u>7.0</u> | _____ | _____ |
| 8. <u>Nature of Failure or Error:</u> | <u>8.3</u> | _____ | _____ |
| 9. <u>Nature of Recovery Actions:</u> | <u>9.1</u> | _____ | _____ |

INCIDENT REPORTING SYSTEM

IRS NO.	EVENT DATE	12/19/2001	DATE RECEIVED
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EVENT TITLE

NRC INFORMATION NOTICE 2002-29: RECENT DESIGN PROBLEMS IN SAFETY FUNCTIONS OF PNEUMATIC SYSTEMS (POINT BEACH)

COUNTRY

USA

PLANT AND UNIT

Point Beach Unit 1& 2

REACTOR TYPE

PWR

INITIAL STATUS

RATED POWER (MWe NET)

N/A

DESIGNER

Combustion Engineering

1st COMMERCIAL OPERATION

10/1/1972

ABSTRACT

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) is issuing this information notice to inform addressees of recent occasions when the controls or designs of safety-related systems incorporating non-safety-related air-operated controls was less than adequate.

NRC INFORMATION NOTICE 2002-29

Please refer to the dictionary of codes corresponding to each of the sections below and to the coding guidelines manual.

- | | | | | |
|----|---|----------------|------------|-------|
| 1. | <u>Reporting Categories:</u> | <u>1.4</u> | <u>1.2</u> | _____ |
| 2. | <u>Plant Status Prior to the Event:</u> | <u>2.1.1</u> | _____ | _____ |
| 3. | <u>Failed/Affected Systems:</u> | <u>3.BB</u> | _____ | _____ |
| 4. | <u>Failed/Affected Components:</u> | <u>4.2.1</u> | _____ | _____ |
| 5. | <u>Cause of the Event:</u> | <u>5.1.4.0</u> | _____ | _____ |
| 6. | <u>Effects on Operation:</u> | <u>6.3.2</u> | _____ | _____ |
| 7. | <u>Characteristics of the Incident:</u> | <u>7.4</u> | _____ | _____ |
| 8. | <u>Nature of Failure or Error:</u> | <u>8.3</u> | _____ | _____ |
| 9. | <u>Nature of Recovery Actions:</u> | <u>9.0</u> | _____ | _____ |

INCIDENT REPORTING SYSTEM

IRS NO.	EVENT DATE	5/3/2000	DATE RECEIVED
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EVENT TITLE

NRC INFORMATION NOTICE 2002-29: RECENT DESIGN PROBLEMS IN SAFETY FUNCTIONS OF PNEUMATIC SYSTEMS (SAN ONOFRE)

COUNTRY

USA

PLANT AND UNIT

San Onofre Unit 3

REACTOR TYPE

PWR

INITIAL STATUS

RATED POWER (MWe NET)

N/A

DESIGNER

Combustion Engineering

1st COMMERCIAL OPERATION

4/1/1984

ABSTRACT

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) is issuing this information notice to inform addressees of recent occasions when the controls or designs of safety-related systems incorporating non-safety-related air-operated controls was less than adequate.

NRC INFORMATION NOTICE 2002-29

Please refer to the dictionary of codes corresponding to each of the sections below and to the coding guidelines manual.

- | | | | | |
|----|---|---------------|--------------|-------|
| 1. | <u>Reporting Categories:</u> | <u>1.4</u> | <u>1.3.5</u> | _____ |
| 2. | <u>Plant Status Prior to the Event:</u> | <u>2.0</u> | _____ | _____ |
| 3. | <u>Failed/Affected Systems:</u> | <u>3.CA</u> | <u>3.CB</u> | _____ |
| 4. | <u>Failed/Affected Components:</u> | <u>4.2.3</u> | _____ | _____ |
| 5. | <u>Cause of the Event:</u> | <u>5.4.19</u> | _____ | _____ |
| 6. | <u>Effects on Operation:</u> | <u>6.0</u> | _____ | _____ |
| 7. | <u>Characteristics of the Incident:</u> | <u>7.4</u> | _____ | _____ |
| 8. | <u>Nature of Failure or Error:</u> | <u>8.3</u> | _____ | _____ |
| 9. | <u>Nature of Recovery Actions:</u> | <u>9.0</u> | _____ | _____ |

INCIDENT REPORTING SYSTEM

IRS NO.	EVENT DATE	2/14/2002	DATE RECEIVED
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EVENT TITLE

NRC INFORMATION NOTICE 2002-34: FAILURE OF SAFETY-RELATED CIRCUIT
BREAKER EXTERNAL AUXILIARY SWITCHES AT COLUMBIA GENERATING STATION

COUNTRY

USA

PLANT AND UNIT

Columbia

REACTOR TYPE

PWR

INITIAL STATUS

RATED POWER (MWe NET)

N/A

DESIGNER

GE

1st COMMERCIAL OPERATION

12/13/1984

ABSTRACT

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) is issuing this information notice to inform addressees of failures of circuit breaker external auxiliary switches because of inadequate maintenance of the associated switchgear.

NRC INFORMATION NOTICE 2002-34

Please refer to the dictionary of codes corresponding to each of the sections below and to the coding guidelines manual.

- | | | | | |
|----|---|----------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| 1. | <u>Reporting Categories:</u> | <u>1.4</u> | <u>1.2</u> | <u> </u> |
| 2. | <u>Plant Status Prior to the Event:</u> | <u>2.1.1</u> | <u> </u> | <u> </u> |
| 3. | <u>Failed/Affected Systems:</u> | <u>3.EB</u> | <u> </u> | <u> </u> |
| 4. | <u>Failed/Affected Components:</u> | <u>4.3.2</u> | <u> </u> | <u> </u> |
| 5. | <u>Cause of the Event:</u> | <u>5.1.1.2</u> | <u>5.3.1</u> | <u>5.4.5</u> |
| 6. | <u>Effects on Operation:</u> | <u>6.3.2</u> | <u> </u> | <u> </u> |
| 7. | <u>Characteristics of the Incident:</u> | <u>7.4</u> | <u> </u> | <u> </u> |
| 8. | <u>Nature of Failure or Error:</u> | <u>8.3</u> | <u> </u> | <u> </u> |
| 9. | <u>Nature of Recovery Actions:</u> | <u>9.0</u> | <u> </u> | <u> </u> |