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Energy to Serve Your World<sup>SM</sup>

NL-03-1272

June 16, 2003

Docket No.: 50-348

U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
ATTN: Document Control Desk  
Washington, D. C. 20555-0001

Joseph M. Farley Nuclear Plant – Unit 1  
Licensee Event Report 2003-002-00  
Reactor Pressure Vessel Head Set in Place with Technical Specification 3.4.12 Not Met

Ladies and Gentlemen:

Joseph M. Farley Nuclear Plant – Licensee Event Report (LER) No. 2003-002-00 is being submitted in accordance with 10 CFR 50.73(a)(2)(i)(B).

This letter contains no NRC commitments. If you have any questions, please advise.

Sincerely,

J. B. Beasley, Jr.

JBB/WAS/sdl

Enclosure: Licensee Event Report 2003-002-00

cc: Southern Nuclear Operating Company  
Mr. J. D. Woodard, Executive Vice President  
Mr. D. E. Grissette, General Manager – Plant Farley  
Document Services RTYPE: CFA04.054; LC# 13797

U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Mr. L. A. Reyes, Regional Administrator  
Mr. F. Rinaldi, NRR Project Manager – Farley  
Mr. T. P. Johnson, Senior Resident Inspector – Farley

IE22

Estimated burden per response to comply with this mandatory information collection request: 50 hours. Reported lessons learned are incorporated into the licensing process and fed back to industry. Send comments regarding burden estimate to the Records Management Branch (T-6 E6), U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, DC 20555-0001, or by internet e-mail to bjs1@nrc.gov, and to the Desk Officer, Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, NEOB-10202 (3150-0104), Office of Management and Budget, Washington, DC 20503. If a means used to impose information collection does not display a currently valid OMB control number, the NRC may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, the information collection.

**LICENSEE EVENT REPORT (LER)**

(See reverse for required number of digits/characters for each block)

<b>FACILITY NAME (1)</b> Joseph M. Farley Nuclear Plant – Unit 1	<b>DOCKET NUMBER (2)</b> 05000 348	<b>PAGE (3)</b> 1 OF 3
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**TITLE (4)** Reactor Pressure Vessel Head Set in Place with Technical Specification 3.4.12 Not Met

EVENT DATE (5)			LER NUMBER (6)			REPORT DATE (7)			OTHER FACILITIES INVOLVED (8)	
MO	DAY	YEAR	YEAR	SEQUENTIAL NUMBER	REV NO	MO	DAY	YEAR	FACILITY NAME	DOCKET NUMBER
04	22	2003	2003	002	0	06	16	2003	FACILITY NAME	DOCKET NUMBER
										05000

<b>OPERATING MODE (9)</b>	6	<b>THIS REPORT IS SUBMITTED PURSUANT TO THE REQUIREMENTS OF 10 CFR §: (Check all that apply) (11)</b>								
<b>POWER LEVEL (10)</b>	0	20.2201(b)	20.2203(a)(3)(ii)	50.73(a)(2)(ii)(B)	50.73(a)(2)(ix)(A)					
		20.2201(d)	20.2203(a)(4)	50.73(a)(2)(iii)	50.73(a)(2)(x)					
		20.2203(a)(1)	50.36(c)(1)(i)(A)	50.73(a)(2)(iv)(A)	73.71(a)(4)					
		20.2203(a)(2)(i)	50.36(c)(1)(ii)(A)	50.73(a)(2)(v)(A)	73.71(a)(5)					
		20.2203(a)(2)(ii)	50.36(c)(2)	50.73(a)(2)(v)(B)						
		20.2203(a)(2)(iii)	50.46(a)(3)(ii)	50.73(a)(2)(v)(C)						
		20.2203(a)(2)(iv)	50.73(a)(2)(i)(A)	50.73(a)(2)(v)(D)						
		20.2203(a)(2)(v)	X 50.73(a)(2)(i)(B)	50.73(a)(2)(vii)						
		20.2203(a)(2)(vi)	50.73(a)(2)(i)(C)	50.73(a)(2)(viii)(A)						
		20.2203(a)(3)(i)	50.73(a)(2)(ii)(A)	50.73(a)(2)(viii)(B)						

**LICENSEE CONTACT FOR THIS LER (12)**

<b>NAME</b> D. E. Grissette, General Manager Nuclear Plant	<b>TELEPHONE NUMBER (Include Area Code)</b> 334-899-5156
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**COMPLETE ONE LINE FOR EACH COMPONENT FAILURE DESCRIBED IN THIS REPORT (13)**

CAUSE	SYSTEM	COMPONENT	MANUFACTURER	REPORTABLE TO EPIX	CAUSE	SYSTEM	COMPONENT	MANUFACTURER	REPORTABLE TO EPIX

<b>SUPPLEMENTAL REPORT EXPECTED (14)</b>	<b>EXPECTED SUBMISSION DATE (15)</b>	MONTH	DAY	YEAR
YES (If yes, complete EXPECTED SUBMISSION DATE.) X NO				

**ABSTRACT (Limit to 1400 spaces, i.e., approximately 15 single-spaced typewritten lines) (16)**

On April 22, 2003, at 1745, during routine shift monitoring activities, it was determined that Farley Nuclear Plant Unit 1 had been operated contrary to Technical Specification 3.4.12 since 1244 on April 22, 2003 in that the reactor vessel head had been set with three charging pumps capable of injecting into the RCS. Technical Specification 3.4.12 requires that a maximum of one charging pump be operable in Modes 5 and 6 when the reactor vessel head is in place and one or more RCS cold legs is ≤ 180°F. By tagging order, two of the three charging pumps were made incapable of injection into the RCS as required by Technical Specifications by 1821 on April 22, 2003.

This event was caused by inadequate procedure in that the Unit Operating Procedure for setting the reactor vessel head did not address the limitation on the number of charging pumps available prior to setting the head. A contributing cause was cognitive personnel error in that equipment alignment was insufficiently reviewed prior to setting the head.

The applicable Unit Operating Procedures on both units have been revised to add appropriate information from Technical Specification 3.4.12. Personnel involved have been coached. A Training Advisory Notice on this procedure change was sent to Operations personnel. This event has been discussed with Operations personnel in shift briefings.

**LICENSEE EVENT REPORT (LER)**

FACILITY NAME (1)	DOCKET (2) NUMBER	LER NUMBER (6)			PAGE (3)	
		YEAR	SEQUENTIAL NUMBER	REVISION NUMBER		
Joseph M. Farley Nuclear Plant Unit - 1	05000348	2003	- 002	- 0	2	OF 3

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

Westinghouse -- Pressurized Water Reactor  
Energy Industry Identification Codes are identified in the text as [XX]

Description of Event

On April 22, 2003, at 1745, during routine shift monitoring activities, it was determined that Farley Nuclear Plant Unit 1 had been operated contrary to Technical Specification 3.4.12, Low Temperature Overpressure Protection System, since 1244 on April 22, 2003 in that the reactor vessel head had been set with three charging pumps capable of injecting into the RCS. Technical Specification 3.4.12 requires that a maximum of one charging pump be operable in Modes 5 and 6 when the reactor vessel head is in place and one or more RCS cold legs is  $\leq 180^{\circ}\text{F}$ .

On April 21, 2003, Unit 1 was in a refueling outage with the RCS [AB] drained to the reactor vessel flange and the plant in Mode 6. Night shift initiated, but did not issue, a tag order to tag out 2 of 3 available charging pumps in anticipation of setting the reactor vessel head. Per the normal shift surveillance procedure, a maximum of one charging pump shall be operable whenever the temperature of one or more RCS cold legs is  $\leq 180^{\circ}\text{F}$  and the Reactor Vessel Head is installed. However, since the reactor head was not set, the procedure step to tag out 2 of the 3 charging pumps was marked not applicable for night shift. At 1244 on dayshift April 22, the reactor head was set. The tag order was in the tagging office ready to implement at the time of the event (setting the reactor head). At 1745 that same evening, while completing the normal shift monitoring activities, the discovery was made that greater than one charging pump was available. The tag order was implemented, and two of the three charging pumps were made incapable of injection into the RCS as required by Technical Specifications by 1821 on April 22, 2003.

Cause of Event

This event was caused by inadequate procedure in that the Unit Operating Procedure for setting the reactor vessel head did not address the limitation on the number of charging pumps available prior to setting the head. A contributing cause was cognitive personnel error in that equipment alignment was insufficiently reviewed prior to setting the head.

Safety Assessment

No overpressure condition occurred during this event. During this event, the reactor vessel head, although set in place on the vessel, was not bolted. In the event that a mass injection transient occurred, such as start of all three charging pumps, the head would have lifted off its seating surface thereby preventing an overpressure condition. Therefore, the health and safety of the public were unaffected by this event.

This event does not represent a Safety System Functional Failure.

**LICENSEE EVENT REPORT (LER)**

FACILITY NAME (1)	DOCKET (2) NUMBER	LER NUMBER (6)			PAGE (3)	
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Joseph M. Farley Nuclear Plant Unit - 1	05000348	2003	- 002	- 0	3	OF 3

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

Corrective Action

The applicable Unit Operating Procedures on both units have been revised to add appropriate information from Technical Specification 3.4.12.

Personnel involved have been coached.

A Training Advisory Notice on this procedure change was sent to Operations personnel. This event has been discussed with Operations personnel in shift briefings.

Additional Information

The following LERs were submitted in the last two years concerning inadequate procedure, standards, or other guidance:

LER 2002-003-00 Unit 1 Technical Specification Violation due to section of Condensate Storage Tank Missile Barrier Not in Place

LER 2002-001-00 Unit 1 Reactor Trip Due to Inadvertent Electrical Contact During Recorder Maintenance

LER 2001-001-00 Unit 2 Reactor Trip due to Main Generator Neutral Connecting Bolt Failure