



March 3, 2005

10 CFR 50.73(a)(2)(iv)(A)

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

Palisades Nuclear Plant  
Docket 50-255  
License No. DPR-20

Licensee Event Report 05-001, Reactor Protection System and Auxiliary Feedwater System Actuation

Licensee Event Report (LER) 05-001 is attached. The LER describes a manual actuation of the reactor protection system and subsequent actuation of the auxiliary feedwater system. This event is reportable in accordance with 10 CFR 50.73(a)(2)(iv)(A).

Summary of Commitments

This letter contains no new commitments and no revisions to existing commitments.

Daniel J. Malone  
Site Vice President, Palisades Nuclear Plant  
Nuclear Management Company, LLC

Enclosure (1)

CC Administrator, Region III, USNRC  
Project Manager, Palisades, USNRC  
Resident Inspector, Palisades, USNRC

IR22

**ENCLOSURE 1**

**LER 05-001, REACTOR PROTECTION SYSTEM AND  
AUXILIARY FEEDWATER SYSTEM ACTUATION**

**2 Pages Follow**

**LICENSEE EVENT REPORT (LER)**

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

Estimated burden per response to comply with this mandatory 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 and FOIA/Privacy Service Branch (T-5 F52), U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, DC 20555-0001, or by internet e-mail to [infocollects@nrc.gov](mailto:infocollects@nrc.gov), and to the Desk Officer, Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, NEOB-10202, (3150-0066), Office of Management and Budget, Washington, DC 20503. If a means used to impose an 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.

<b>FACILITY NAME (1)</b> Palisades Nuclear Plant	<b>DOCKET NUMBER (2)</b> 05000-255	<b>PAGE (3)</b> 1 of 2
---	---------------------------------------	---------------------------

**TITLE (4)**  
Reactor Protection System and Auxiliary Feedwater System Actuation

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	
01	09	2005	2005	-- 001	-- 00	03	03	2005	FACILITY NAME	DOCKET NUMBER	
<b>OPERATING MODE (9)</b>		<b>THIS REPORT IS SUBMITTED PURSUANT TO THE REQUIREMENTS OF 10 CFR ̢: (Check all that apply) (11)</b>									
1		20.2201(b)			20.2203(a)(3)(ii)			50.73(a)(2)(ii)(B)		50.73(a)(2)(ix)(A)	
<b>POWER LEVEL (10)</b>		20.2201(d)			20.2203(a)(4)			50.73(a)(2)(iii)		50.73(a)(2)(x)	
75%		20.2203(a)(1)			50.36(c)(1)(i)(A)			X 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)		OTHER Specify in Abstract below or in NRC Form 366A	
		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)			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> Barb Dotson	<b>TELEPHONE NUMBER (include Area Code)</b> (269) 764-2265
----------------------------	---

**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
X	TF	DRN	W120	Y					

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

**ABSTRACT**

On January 9, 2005, at 1117 hours, with the plant operating at approximately 100% power, a rapid plant down power was commenced following an unexpected lowering of condenser vacuum. At 1127 hours, the reactor was manually tripped from 75% power. Following the reactor trip, the auxiliary feedwater system started automatically to maintain steam generator water level. The plant was stabilized in Mode 3 to investigate and repair the cause of the low condenser vacuum. All safety systems functioned as expected during the plant trip.

This event is reportable in accordance with 10 CFR 50.73(a)(2)(iv)(A) as an event that resulted in a manual actuation of the reactor protection system and automatic actuation of the auxiliary feedwater system.

**LICENSEE EVENT REPORT (LER)**  
TEXT CONTINUATION

FACILITY NAME (1)	DOCKET NUMBER (2)	LER NUMBER (6)			PAGE (3)
Palisades	05000-255	YEAR	SEQUENTIAL NUMBER	REVISION NUMBER	2 of 2
		2005	-- 001	-- 00	

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

**EVENT DESCRIPTION**

On January 9, 2005, at 1117 hours, with the plant operating at approximately 100% power, a rapid plant down power was commenced following an unexpected lowering of condenser [COND;SG] vacuum. At 1127 hours, the reactor [RCT;AB] was manually tripped from 75% power. Following the reactor trip, the auxiliary feedwater system [BA] started automatically to maintain steam generator [SG;SB] water level. The plant was stabilized in Mode 3 to investigate and repair the cause of the low condenser vacuum. All safety systems functioned as expected during the plant trip.

This event is reportable in accordance with 10 CFR 50.73(a)(2)(iv)(A) as an event that resulted in a manual actuation of the reactor protection system [JC] and automatic actuation of the auxiliary feedwater system.

**CAUSE OF THE EVENT**

A low pressure turbine casing drain line, which was routed through the condenser, had not been capped as part of a plant modification that had intended to permanently plug all of the low pressure turbine casing drains. The uncapped casing drain line failed, allowing air in-leakage to the condenser, which caused the lowering of condenser vacuum.

**SAFETY SIGNIFICANCE**

The safety significance of this event was minimal. All safety systems functioned as expected during the plant trip.

**CORRECTIVE ACTIONS**

The low pressure turbine casing drain was permanently plugged.

**PREVIOUS SIMILAR EVENTS**

None.