From: Harold Chernoff
To: Lakshminaras Raghavan > MRR
Date: Fri, Apr 30, 2004 9:38 AM
Subject: Point Beach RCCA Incident -Preliminary Information

Attached is a summary of an incident that occurred at Point Beach yesterday. They were in the process of swapping an RCCA to a different fuel assembly in the spent fuel pool. Thsy ended up traversing the bridge with the RCCA partially inserted (~2 feet) into a fuel assembly.

Neither the fuel assemly or RCCA will be re-used although the extent of damage , if any, has not yet been determined. Fuel movement was halted (~18 hours) during investigation of this incident. The cause has not yet been determined.

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Control rod contacted top of fuel assembly during RCCA changing

4/29/2004 6:36:02 PM - STALZER, CHARLES:
During Unit 1R28 fuel motion, a move of a RCCA from spent fuel pool position G-28 to G-27 was being performed. The SFP bridge operators latched the control rod and withdrew it using the RCCA change tool. The RCCA change tool operator believed he had proper indication on the tool for the rod being fully up. After the RCCA change tool operator reported the RCCA was fully up, the SFP supervisor viewed the RCCA change tool and concurred.

The tool was then raised and the bridge was indexed. The second operator on the bridge wanted to verify that the new location (SG-27) was ready to receive an RCCA. The bridge operator raised the RCCA change tool with the hoist as far as he could and then push the tool toward the south to view the new location. Both operators agreed that the assembly was empty. The SFP supervisor was also using binoculars to verify the acceptability of the fuel assembly in G-27 for an RCCA as a separate action.

After verification that the assembly was ready to receive an RCCA, the tool was lowered with the hoist. During this time, the tool kicked out in the counterclockwise direction. Work with the RCCA change tool was stopped. The tool operator noted that the cable on the drum of the change tool was slack. Visually from the pool, it showed that there were RCCA rods sticking from the bottom of the tool and resting on G-28. The bridge/hoist was over G-27 with the tool hanging cocked toward G-28. The weight on the tool was approximately –60 pounds, indicating the rod was resting on the fuel assembly, along with on additional weight, either from the tool itself or from a load due to being out of alignment.

Reactor engineering, the OCC and control room were contacted.

Evaluation by reactor engineering was performed including inspection with an underwater camera of the RCCA. At first look, there was indication of RCCA rodlets that were not straight. The RCCA change tool was used to raise the rod. The rod was raised approximately 2 feet to return to rod full up and the tool appeared to operate normally. Once weight was taken off of the RCCA, the rodlets appeared to straighten.