



TS 3.3.3.7
TS 6.9.4

LR-N08-0133
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United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission
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Salem Generating Station Unit No. 2
Facility Operating License DPR-75
NRC Docket No. 50-311

Subject: Special Report 311/2008-004, Two Channels of Reactor Vessel Level Instrumentation System (RVLIS) Inoperable Greater Than 7 Days

The attached Special Report is being submitted pursuant to the requirements of Salem Unit 2 Technical Specification (TS) 3.3.3.7, which requires that both channels of Reactor Vessel Level Instrumentation System (RVLIS) be operable in Modes 1, 2 and 3. With two channels inoperable, the action statement requires that one channel be restored to operable status within 7 days or submit a Special Report in accordance with administrative TS 6.9.4.

Should there be any questions regarding this matter please contact Howard Berrick at 856-339-1861.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Robert Braun", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Robert Braun
Site Vice President - Salem

Attachment

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MRK

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Special Report 311/08-004-00

Description Of Occurrence

The Salem Unit 2 Technical Specification (TS) 3.3.3.7 requires both channels of Reactor Vessel Level Instrumentation System (RVLIS) to be operable in Modes 1, 2 and 3. With two channels inoperable, TS 3.3.3.7 Action 9 requires one channel to be returned to an operable status within 7 days or submit a Special Report in accordance with administrative TS 6.9.4.

On May 20, 2008, as Salem Unit 2 approached 100% reactor power from its sixteenth refueling outage (2R16), it was reported that the RVLIS monitors were reading off-scale high. Control room personnel declared both trains of RVLIS inoperable at 0630 on May 20. Immediately after declaring RVLIS inoperable maintenance instrument and control technicians (I&C) were contacted and both trains were returned to an operable status upon installation of the new RVLIS coefficients. RVLIS was declared operable at 1125 on May 20, 2008.

Subsequent investigation revealed that on May 6, 2008, RVLIS was being tested to determine what adjustments to the systems' electronics were required as part of the start-up from 2R16. Data collection was completed per the procedure, and sent to the vendor (Westinghouse). Upon review of the data by the vendor, revised coefficients were sent to PSEG to input into the RVLIS system. However, the new coefficients were not inputted. Therefore, both trains of RVLIS were inoperable from May 6 until May 20, 2008, when new coefficients were inputted.

Preplanned Alternate Monitoring Method

Upon the determination that both RVLIS channels were inoperable, Operations personnel entered into the Action Statement of LCO 3.3.3.7.

Procedure S2.OP-SO.RVL-0001 (Q), Reactor Vessel Level Instrumentation System, step 3.9 states that when one or both RVLIS channels are inoperable, the preplanned method of monitoring for inadequate core cooling is that the required channels in TS Table 3.3-11 for both the Reactor Coolant System (RCS) Sub-cooling Margin Monitor and the Core Exit Thermocouples (CET) are operable. These channels were operable.

The Action Statement was exited when the RVLIS channels were returned to an operable status.

Cause of the Inoperability

An investigation is ongoing to determine why the RVLIS dynamic head scaling coefficients were not promptly adjusted to the revised vendor recommendations.

Plans to Return to Operable Status

Both trains of RVLIS were restored to an operable status on May 20, 2008.