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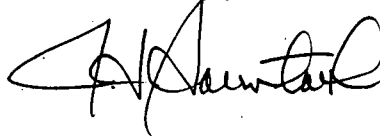
June 24, 1999

Re: Indian Point Unit No. 2  
Docket No. 50-247  
LER 97-17-01

Document Control Desk  
US Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Mail Station PI-137  
Washington, DC 20555

The attached Licensee Event Report 97-17-01 is hereby submitted in accordance with the requirements of 10 CFR 50.73.

Very truly yours,



Attachment

C: Mr. Hubert J. Miller  
Regional Administrator - Region I  
US Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
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## LICENSEE EVENT REPORT (LER)

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

Estimated burden per response to comply with this mandatory information collection request: 50 hrs. Reported lessons learned are incorporated into the licensing process and fed back to industry. Forward comments regarding burden estimate to the Records Management Branch (T-6 F33), U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, DC 20555-0001, and to the Paperwork Reduction Project (3150-0104), Office of Management and Budget, Washington, DC 20503. If 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.

FACILITY NAME (1)

Indian Point No. 2

DOCKET NUMBER (2)

05000-247

PAGE (3)

1 OF 4

TITLE (4)

Review of monthly radiation monitor performance test data.

EVENT DATE (5)			LER NUMBER (6)			REPORT DATE (7)			OTHER FACILITIES INVOLVED (8)	
MONTH	DAY	YEAR	YEAR	SEQUENTIAL NUMBER	REVISION NUMBER	MONTH	DAY	YEAR	FACILITY NAME	DOCKET NUMBER
7	21	1997	1997	-- 17 --	1	6	24	1999		05000
OPERATING MODE (9) N			THIS REPORT IS SUBMITTED PURSUANT TO THE REQUIREMENTS OF 10 CFR 5: (Check one or more) (11)							
POWER LEVEL (10) 90			20.2201(b)		20.2203(a)(2)(v)	X	50.73(a)(2)(i)		50.73(a)(2)(viii)	
			20.2203(a)(1)		20.2203(a)(3)(i)		50.73(a)(2)(ii)		50.73(a)(2)(x)	
			20.2203(a)(2)(i)		20.2203(a)(3)(ii)		50.73(a)(2)(iii)		73.71	
			20.2203(a)(2)(ii)		20.2203(a)(4)		50.73(a)(2)(iv)		OTHER	
			20.2203(a)(2)(iii)		50.36(c)(1)		50.73(a)(2)(v)		Specify in Abstract below or in NRC Form 366A	
			20.2203(a)(2)(iv)		50.36(c)(2)		50.73(a)(2)(vii)			

## LICENSEE CONTACT FOR THIS LER (12)

NAME

John Beck, Senior Licensing Engineer

TELEPHONE NUMBER (Include Area Code)

(914) 734-5692

## 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

## SUPPLEMENTAL REPORT EXPECTED (14)

YES (If yes, complete EXPECTED SUBMISSION DATE).	X	NO	EXPECTED SUBMISSION DATE (15)	MONTH	DAY	YEAR
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## ABSTRACT (Limit to 1400 spaces, i.e., approximately 15 single-spaced typewritten lines) (16)

On July 21, 1997, with the unit at approximately 90 percent power, the results of a radiation monitoring system performance test were reviewed and determined to be unsatisfactory. The failure of performance test PT-M86 is attributed to a calibration constant being set incorrectly. The calibration constant is used to calculate the gaseous radioactivity in the in-service Large Gas Decay Tank that is then compared against the alarm set point. Evaluation of the results indicated that the calculated activity value of Large Gas Decay Tank gaseous monitor (R-50) activity was nonconservatively low. Once noticed, the calibration constant was restored to the proper value and, subsequently, the radiation monitor was declared operable.

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

**PLANT AND SYSTEM IDENTIFICATION:**

Westinghouse 4-Loop Pressurized Water Reactor

**IDENTIFICATION OF OCCURRENCE:**

Review of monthly radiation monitor performance test data.

**EVENT DATE:**

July 21, 1997

**REPORT DUE DATE:**

August 20, 1997

**REFERENCES:**

Condition Identification and Tracking System (CITRS) No. 97-E02792 and 97-E02794

**PAST SIMILAR OCCURRENCE:**

None

**DESCRIPTION OF OCCURRENCE:**

On July 21, 1997, at approximately 15:36 hours, the results of the R-50 radiation monitor performance test were reviewed and found to be unacceptable. A work order was initiated to implement corrective maintenance on R-50 to repair the cause of the low reading. The calibration constant was restored to the required value. At 17:25 hours, on July 21, 1997, R-50 was declared operable.

During the time that the calibration constant was set nonconservatively, the Large Gas Decay Tank ( LGDT) radiation monitor, R-50, was inoperable.

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

**ANALYSIS OF OCCURRENCE :**

During the performance of monthly test PT-M86, for radiation monitor R-50, Large Gas Decay Tank (LGDT) activity, it was discovered that the conversion constant was nonconservatively set at  $9.0\text{E-}15$  micro Ci/cc/Amp. The correct value for this application is  $7.22\text{E+}8$  micro Ci/cc/Amp. This specific conversion constant is used to calculate the radioactive activity for the in service Large Gas Decay Tank. During the time that the conversion constant was set incorrectly at  $9.0\text{E-}15$  micro Ci/cc/Amp, the R-50 radiation monitor was inoperable. The Technical Specification (TS) requirement for minimum number of Waste Hold Up System noble gas activity monitor operable channels was not met, nor was the compensatory action of performing daily determinations of receiving gas decay tank activity. The TS and administrative limits for LGDT activity are 29761 and 6000 Curies respectively. The R-50 set point of 600 Curies provides an alarm function only. Automatic control functions are not provided. Review of periodic analysis of the manually sampled LGDT indicates there were no significant amounts (greater than one Curie) of LGDT activity during the period that the R-50 radiation monitor calibration constant was incorrectly set.

These events are reportable under 10 CFR 50.73(a)(2)(i)(b). The basis for reportability is that the Technical Specification 3.9.B.2.a requirement for radioactive gaseous effluent monitoring instrumentation was not met. Further, the compensatory action to sample tank activity was not performed on a daily basis.

**CAUSE OF OCCURRENCE :**

Our identification of the discrepancy and subsequent review of digital radiation monitoring system one hour interval data printouts from July 9, 1997 indicate that the conversion constant was changed sometime between 10:00 and 11:00 hours of that day. This review of printouts revealed a dramatic reduction in hourly average activity from  $1.15\text{E-}2$  to  $4.54\text{E-}25$  Ci. During the time in question, the radiation monitor system engineer and a nuclear plant operator (NPO) were troubleshooting unrelated operational difficulties with R-50. These troubleshooting activities focused on "high pressure" alarms. During their troubleshooting activities, R-50 was placed into local control to verify programmed set points.

The cause of this event is attributed to personnel error. This is based on failure to realize the calibration constant was manipulated. The time delay for radiation monitor display update was not sufficiently understood by involved parties

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

**CORRECTIVE ACTIONS:**

The calibration constant was restored to the value specified in Test and Performance Procedure PT-M86 for the radiation monitoring system.

Management's expectations were reinforced with the Nuclear Plant Operators (NPO's) regarding the use of procedures when operating equipment. The operation of radiation monitors was discussed, together with the importance of error codes and their functions.

Procedure PT-M86 has been revised to require recording the "as-found" LCU display reading prior to changing any key switch positions. This will aid in troubleshooting of radiation monitors and in any follow-up investigation.

Procedure PT-D5 has been revised to reference an operator aid containing the lower boundary values to identify a potentially abnormal reading (the upper boundary value is the alarm set point).