

NRP

Brand, Javier

From: Brown, Michael
Sent: Tuesday, November 24, 2009 10:40 AM
To: Barber, Scott; Werkheiser, David
Cc: Spindler, David; Brand, Javier
Subject: Morning Call issues affecting Branch 6 - TMI and BV

Scott et al,

Here is what I heard on the morning call this morning, let me know if anything is in error. Feel free to correct it. I'm working at home today so if you need to contact me my cell is 302-438-1507 or use email.

EN 45517 UNUSUAL EVENT - REACTOR COOLANT SYSTEM UNIDENTIFIED LEAKAGE GREATER THAN 25 GPM (Recommend Screen Out)

"Beaver Valley Unit 2 declared an unusual event due to reactor coolant system unidentified leakage greater than 25 GPM into the pressurizer relief tank. Leakage occurred during shutdown of the residual heat removal system Train-A. The Train-A suction relief valve lifted due to pressure from the in-service Train-B residual heat [removal] system. The leakage has been stopped by isolating Train-A RHR from Train-B RHR. The duration of relief valve lifting was about 9 minutes. The pressurizer relief tank remained intact. All other systems functioned as designed and the plant is stable. Containment was closed at time of the event. No radioactive release occurred."

The licensee terminated the unusual event at 0404 EST.

The licensee notified the NRC Resident Inspector.

Preliminary Notifications: None

Region Morning Call Notes:

EN 45517 UNUSUAL EVENT - REACTOR COOLANT SYSTEM UNIDENTIFIED LEAKAGE GREATER THAN 25 GPM

Beaver Valley Unit 2 was in Mode 4 in the process of removing the "A" RHR loop from service when they observed pressurizer level lowering and PRT level rising. The licensee determined that the identified leak rate was > 25 gpm which met EAL entry condition 2.6.B - an unusual event due to excessive leakage. The UE was declared and all notifications were made.

The licensee was successful at terminating the event by closing the cross tie valves between the "A" and "B" RHR systems. The licensee has determined that the increase in PRT level was due to the "A" RHR suction relief valve lifting. The relief valve lifted due to "A" RHR line being pressurized from the "B" RHR pump discharge through the open cross-tie valves. The duration of the relief lifting was approximately 9 minutes.

The licensee determined that approximately 800 gallons of water went to the PRT during the event. PRT pressure increased to 39 psig. Setpoint for the PRT rupture disc is between 85-100 psig.

The Senior Resident Inspector responded to the site and is assessing the licensee's response to the event. A Manual Chapter 0309 assessment is being performed to determine what followup activities are warranted.

The licensee terminated the unusual event at 0404 EST.

The agency stayed in normal response mode based on the event being terminated prior to all notifications being made. (send to TRGs for ECCS; Samuel Miranda, Pump and Valve; Russell Lake;

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Emergency Preparedness; Jeffrey Temple, Human Performance; Michael Boggi, and Public Affairs; Scott Burnell)

(Update) TMI - RADIATION RELEASE IN CONTAINMENT ASSOCIATED WITH STEAM GENERATOR REMOVAL

The licensee has concluded that the apparent cause of the event was a change in containment ventilation lineup in conjunction with some open RCS piping penetrations.

The licensee has secured their containment purge supply fans and is only operating containment purge exhaust fans. This ensures that containment will be maintained at a negative pressure.

The licensee did have 3 airborne radiation monitor alarms in containment during the night, however, none of these were due to a radiation release. Two of the alarms were due to power cycling to the airborne radiation monitor and one of the alarms was determined to be due to shine from a vacuum cleaner.

The Chairman briefed the Governor of Pennsylvania and several members of Congress on the event.

The Region continues to have an HP inspector on-site to closely following the licensee's response and will be evaluating their actions. *(send update to TRGs for Containment; Jerome Bettel, Emergency Preparedness; Jeffrey Temple, Health Physics; Steven Garry, Human Performance; Michael Boggi, Dose Assessment; Mark Blumberg and Public Affairs; Scott Burnell)*

Also I have a couple of questions -

1 - On BV - does the licensee have to do some type of pressure assessment on the RHR suction line due to the relief valve lifting to ensure that their suction piping is still ok? I remember at Salem that if they popped a RHR suction relief they had to do an analysis (I believe it was required by Tech Specs)

2 - On TMI - Pete Bamford put out some updated info on the release and dose, should I put that in? You didn't talk about it at the 8am meeting so I'm running past you before I send anything out. (I'll send out his email in case you don't have it)

Thanks,

Mike

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