

Incoming Conversation Record

Date December 5, 2012

Time 4:30 pm

Licensee Arcelormittal USA

License No. 21-08362-12

Docket 030-04353

Participants Ryan Craffey, DNMS 630-829-9655

Scott Bush, RSO 219-399-6498

Subject: EN 48562 – Fixed Gauge Shutter Failed to Close

The RSO of Arcelormittal called MIB staff on December 5 to inform them that he had just given notification to the HOO of a fixed gauge shutter failure, reportable under 10 CFR 30.50(b)(2).

The RSO stated that at about noon, while plant maintenance was attempting to shut down the various components of a process line, they attempted to remotely close the shutter of a Texas Nuclear gauge used for weighing purposes. Although the control panel indicated power to the actuator, it indicated also that the shutter itself was not closing in response to actuator power.

Maintenance called the RSO, who arrived on-site to conduct a visual inspection of the gauge and a survey of the area. There were no indications of damage to the gauge, but the shutter did in fact appear to be open. The RSO stated that there was a possibility of foreign material preventing the shutter from moving to the closed position. Surveys of the immediate area came back normal, supporting the RSO's conclusion of no damage. The shutter is currently still in the open position, and no attempts have been made to manually close it. The RSO had no concern of any exposures to plant personnel. The gauge is in a non-frequented area of the plant, and the beam points into the process line itself. As a precaution, however, he did rope off the area to prevent inadvertent access.

The RSO contacted a vendor (ThermoFisher) who is scheduled to arrive at 10:00 am on Thursday, December 6, 2012 to address the situation.

There are at least six of these gauges in the facility; none of them have been the subject of reportable events. The shutters are tested during quarterly inventories. The gauge in question was last tested on September 18, 2012, and there were no issues noted at the time.