



Global Nuclear Fuel

A Joint Venture of GE, Toshiba, & Hitachi

Global Nuclear Fuel

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SPM 14-008

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U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards
Washington, D.C. 20555-0001

Attn: Document Control Desk

Subject: 30-day Report of Event – Inoperable Criticality Warning System (CWS) Horn

References: 1) NRC License SNM-1097, Docket 70-1113
2) GNF-A Event Report 49759, 1/23/14

Dear Sir or Madam:

In accordance with 10CFR70.50(c)(2), Global Nuclear Fuel – Americas L.L.C. (GNF-A) hereby submits the 30 day follow-up report to Event Notification 49759, which was provided on January 23, 2014 (Reference 2). As discussed in the event report, GNF-A discovered a portion of the outdoor CWS had improper voltage to properly sound local alarm horns. Consistent with 10CFR70.50(c)(1), a facsimile was submitted on January 23, 2014 providing additional information and is included as an attachment to this letter.

Additional information is provided as follows:

Event Details and Safety Significance

1. On January 22, 2014, it was discovered during routine testing on an outdoor (CWS) Data Acquisition Module (DAM #21), that the module had inadequate voltage to properly sound local alarm horns in the Wilmington Field Services Center (WFSC) tooling rebuild building. While another module provides overlapping detector coverage, it does not provide overlapping horn audibility in this building. There were no active fissile material operations impacted by this failure, thus no unsafe condition existed. Licensed activities at the WFSC are limited to those using activation, by-product, and limited quantities of special nuclear material (SNM) authorized by a NC agreement state license. Testing of other areas of the outdoor CWS was completed with no additional issues.

Immediate Corrective Actions

1. Personnel were immediately removed from the affected areas and repairs initiated to restore normal operation of the system.

Probable Cause of Event

1. A battery charger (Johnson Controls 12V Dynasty Model) was found to have partially failed causing the battery backup to be weak in the unseasonably cold weather.

Short Term Corrective Actions

1. The battery and charger were replaced and the system returned to normal on 1/22/14 at approximately 3 PM.
2. The affected outdoor CWS horns were retested to ensure proper system operability.

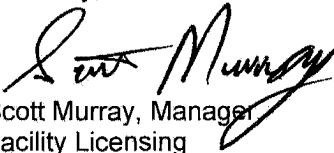
Long-term (Preventive) Corrective Actions

1. A physical barrier consisting of a chain link fence has been installed to separate WFSC licensed activities from NRC licensed activities; however, additional access controls and system upgrades are required before CWS coverage for the WFSC areas can be discontinued. These additional controls are scheduled to be completed by the end of the second quarter 2014.

Scheduled complete - June 30, 2014.

If you have any questions regarding this matter, please contact me at (910) 819-5950.

Sincerely,



Scott Murray, Manager
Facility Licensing

Attachment 1: Event Description

cc: NRC Region II Administrator, Atlanta, GA
M. Crespo, NRC RII Atlanta, GA
T. D. Naquin, NRC NMSS, Washington, DC

Attachment 1

EVENT DESCRIPTION

On 1/22/14 at 1:15 PM, it was discovered during routine testing on an outdoor Criticality Warning System (CWS) Data Acquisition Module (DAM #21), that the module had inadequate voltage to properly sound a portion of the local alarm horns in the Wilmington Field Services Center (WFSC) building #1. While another module provides overlapping detector coverage, it does not provide overlapping horn audibility in the affected areas. The cause of the event is believed to be related to a battery component failure.

Personnel were immediately removed from the affected areas and repairs initiated to restore normal operation of the system.

The module was repaired and the system returned to normal on 1/22/14 at approximately 3 PM. The affected outdoor CWS horns were retested to ensure proper system operability. There are no active fissile material operations at the WFSC, thus no unsafe condition existed.

Longer term preventive actions are being evaluated.

This event is being reported pursuant to the requirements of 10CFR70.50 (b)(2).

SP Murray

Manager, Facility Licensing

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