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BAUCOM, C.T. Carolina Power & Light Co.
MORGAN, R.E. Carolina Power & Light Co.
RECIP.NAME RECIPIENT AFFILIATION

SUBJECT: LER 90-008-00:on 900430, inoperable fire barrier penetration seal.

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H. B. ROBINSON STEAM ELECTRIC PLANT, UNIT NO. 2

DOCKET NO. 50-261 LICENSE NO. DPR-23

LICENSEE EVENT REPORT 90-008

Gentlemen:

The enclosed Licensee Event Report (LER) is submitted in accordance with 10 CFR 50.73 and NUREG-1022 including Supplements No. 1 and 2.

Very truly yours,

R. E. Morgan General Manager

H. B. Robinson S. E. Plant

Enclosure

cc: Mr. S. D. Ebneter

Mr. L. W. Garner

INPO

/ F22

YES (If yes, complete EXPECTED SUBMISSION DATE)

ABSTRACT (Limit to 1400 spaces, i.e., approximately fifteen single-space typewritten lines) (16)

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On April 30, 1990, with H. B. Robinson Unit No. 2 at 100% power, a deficiency was identified with respect to a fire barrier penetration. Passing through this penetration was a length of one-fourth inch plastic tubing which was unsealed at both ends. The material and configuration of this penetration did not constitute an acceptable three-hour fire barrier penetration seal, and the penetration was declared inoperable at 1545 hours on April 30, 1990. This penetration had been inspected on previous occasions, however, it was not recognized that this tubing violated the integrity of the penetration seal. The tubing was removed, and the penetration was repaired and returned to service at 0800 hours on May 7, 1990. Since it could be established that this penetration had been inoperable for a time period which exceeded the requirements of the Technical Specifications, this Licensee Event Report is submitted pursuant to 10CFR50.73 (a)(2)(i)(B) as a condition prohibited by the plant's Technical Specifications.

TEXT If more space is required, use additional NRC Form 386A's) (17)

enclosure to serial: RNPD/90-

(9-83)	LICENSEE EVENT F	REPORT (LER) TEXT CONTI	NUATION	APPROVED O	APPROVED OMB NO. 3150-0104 EXPIRES: 8/31/86				
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I. Description of Event

On April 30, 1990, H. B. Robinson Unit No. 2 was operating at 100% power with an inspection of fire barrier penetration seals in progress.1 Specifically, 100% of the site fire barrier penetration seals were being inspected in accordance with OST-623, "Fire Barrier Penetration Seal Inspection," to satisfy the requirements of Technical Specification 4.14.5.1. As part of this inspection, a discrepancy was identified with regard to mechanical penetration MP-4016.02-FP-10 between Fire Zone 10 (South Cable Vault) and Fire Zone 11 (Pipe Alley). The specific discrepancy identified was a length of one-fourth inch (0.25") plastic tubing which passed through the sealed penetration. The total length of this tubing was estimated to be between 6 and 12 feet and the tubing was open at both ends. The tubing material could not be considered an acceptable part of a three-hour fire barrier, even if both tubing ends had been sealed. Therefore, the penetration was declared inoperable and removed from service at 1545 hours on April 30, 1990. Compensatory actions were taken in accordance with the requirements of Technical Specification 3.14.7.2.

The plastic tubing was removed from the penetration and the penetration was properly repaired and sealed. The penetration was returned to an operable status at 0800 hours on May 7, 1990, which was within seven days of the declaration of inoperability as required by the Technical Specifications.

A review of documentation associated with the affected penetration showed that it had been entered into the original penetration data base on August 20, 1984 as a mechanical penetration. Also, the penetration was inspected on October 9, 1987 and was deemed satisfactory. Based on this documentation, sufficient justification exists to consider that the penetration had been inoperable in excess of Technical Specification Limiting Condition for Operation (LCO) requirements, and compensatory actions were not implemented in accordance with the Technical Specifications.

NRC FORM 346A

 $^{^{1}}$ H. B. Robinson Unit No. 2 is a 700 MW pressurized water reactor in commercial operation since March 1971.

NRC-Form 364A (9-83) LICENSEE EVENT REPORT (LER) TEXT CONTINUATION

U.S. NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

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II. Cause of Event

Further investigation determined that the plastic tubing had in the past been used in conjunction with Integrated Leak Rate Testing (ILRT) of the containment. However, this tubing is no longer used during the ILRT, was serving no current function, and was presumably abandoned in place. Based on previous penetration inspection activity, it can be concluded that this tubing had been in place prior to August 1984. However, the activities associated with compilation of the penetration data base in August 1984, and the penetration inspection in October 1987, were not of sufficient depth and detail to recognize that the tubing material and configuration could not be relied upon as an acceptable component of the fire barrier. The current inspection involves both design verification and drawing verification for each fire barrier penetration. expanded, detailed inspection identified the tubing as a deficiency. summary, the previous inspection activity was not of sufficient scope and detail to identify the plastic tubing as a degradation of the penetration.

It should also be noted that, prior to establishing the penetration data base in 1984, there were no formal controls associated with mechanical penetrations.

III. Analysis of Event

Fire barrier penetration seals are a passive element in the facility fire protection program. Their operability is intended to minimize the probability of a single fire rapidly involving several areas of the facility prior to detection and extinguishment. Technical Specification 3.14.7.2.a ensures that prompt detection capability exists in the vicinity of an inoperable fire barrier penetration by requiring verification of fire detection system operability within one hour of penetration inoperability. Should an area detection system be inoperable, a continuous fire watch would be established within one hour in accordance with Technical Specification 3.14.7.2.b. In this way, proper contingency actions are taken until the penetration is restored to an operable status.

Based on the determination that the penetration had been inoperable for a period of time which exceeded Technical Specification LCO requirements, this occurrence is reportable pursuant to 10CFR50.73 (a)(2)(i)(B) as a condition prohibited by the plant's Technical Specifications.

LICENSEE EVENT REPORT (LER) TEXT CONTINUATION APPROVED OMB NO. 3150-0104 EXPIRES: 8/31/86 DOCKET NUMBER (2) FACILITY NAME (1) LER NUMBER (8) PAGE (3) YEAR H. B. ROBINSON, UNIT NO. 2

TEXT III more specific required, use additional NRC Form 3864's) (17)

IV. Corrective Action

The plastic tubing was removed from penetration MP-4016.02-FP-10 and the penetration was properly repaired and sealed. The penetration was returned to an operable status at 0800 hours on May 7, 1990, which was within seven days of the declaration of inoperability as required by the Technical Specifications.

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In addition, penetration drawings and the penetration data base will be revised to reflect the removal of the plastic tubing from the penetration.

As committed within Licensee Event Report 90-003, HBR2 personnel are currently performing an inspection of fire barrier penetration seals in accordance with Technical Specification 4.14.5.1. This inspection will include 100% of the penetration seals and should identify any further penetration deficiencies. This inspection is scheduled to be completed prior to startup from the 1990 Refueling Outage. Since an inspection of this magnitude and scope may likely result in the discovery of other penetration deficiencies, HBR2 has initiated discussions with NRC personnel to determine the most efficient and effective method of reporting identified deficiencies.

Also, as stated within LER 90-003, the implementation of the corporate Nuclear Plant Modification Program and the centralization of design activities have improved the development and review process for modifications and procedures that affect Appendix R compliance. improvements will help to preclude recurrence of this type of condition.

Additional Information V.

Failed Component Identification Α.

None

Previous Similar Events В.

> Licensee Event Report 90-003 described the inoperability of fire barrier penetration seals which were found to have no internal fire barrier.

Licensee Event Report 88-018-01 described inoperable cable tray penetration seals which resulted from inadequate installation procedures.

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