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Lawrence Coyle
Site Vice President

August 1, 2016

NL-16-083

U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
ATTN: Document Control Desk
11545 Rockville Pike
Rockville, MD 20852

SUBJECT: Post Accident Monitoring (PAM) Report for an Inoperable Containment Area
Radiation Monitor (R-26) High Range
Indian Point Unit Number 3
Docket No. 50-286
License No. DPR-64

Dear Sir or Madam:

The purpose of this letter is to submit a report pursuant to Technical Specification (TS) 5.6.7 (Post Accident Monitoring Report) for one channel of Containment Area Radiation Monitor (R-26) inoperable for greater than the TS allowed completion time. R-26 is specified in TS 3.3.3 [Post Accident Monitoring (PAM) Instrumentation], Table 3.3.3-1, under Function 10 [(Containment Area Radiation (High Range))], as one of two (2) required operable channels. Containment Area Radiation is provided to monitor for the potential of significant radiation releases and to provide release assessment for use by operators in determining the need to invoke site emergency plans. The TS LCO requirement for Containment Area Radiation (High Range) monitoring is satisfied by radiation monitors designated R-25 and R-26. These redundant monitors meet the requirements of Regulatory Guide 1.97 and are used to measure the area radiation fields in the containment. Radiation monitors R-25 and R-26 are in the containment on the 95 foot elevation. They can be used to follow the course of an accident by indicating the extent of gaseous and vapor fission products released from the primary system. These monitors consist of ion chamber detectors, local indicators, annunciator, and microprocessor. A central computer in the Radiation Monitoring Cabinet in the Control Room communicates with each microprocessor and displays various parameters on a CRT.

On June 28, 2016, at 8:51 hours, Operations entered TS 3.3.3 Condition A for R-26 being inoperable due to troubleshooting for R-26 spiking into alarm. On July 28, 2016, at 8:51 hours, R-26 remained in TS 3.3.3 Condition A for one or more functions of Table 3.3.3-1 with one or more required channels inoperable for an inoperable Function 10. Required Action A.1 is to restore required channel to operable in 30 days. 3-TS-16-5120 was initiated on June 28, 2016, to track AOT.

ADD
NRR

On July 28, 2016, CR-IP3-2016-02216 recorded that the inoperable R-26 associated with Limiting Condition for Operation (LCO) 3.3.3 exceeded the requirement to be returned to operable within 30 days as of 8:51 hours. TS 3.3.3 Condition B (Required Action and associated Completion Time of Condition A not met) required action B.1 is to initiate action in accordance with TS 5.6.7. TS 5.6.7 requires a report be submitted to NRC within the next 14 days. The report is to outline the preplanned alternate method of monitoring, the cause of the inoperability, and the plans and schedule for restoring the instrument to operable status.

- Alternate method of monitoring

While R-26 is inoperable, redundant radiation monitor R-25 is operable thereby providing the capability to perform the function. Two operable channels ensure no single failure prevents operators from getting the information necessary for them to determine the safety status of the unit following an accident. The containment area radiation monitors are passive in nature in that no critical automatic action is assumed to occur and there is a low probability of an event requiring this PAM instrumentation during the interval with one inoperable channel.

- Cause

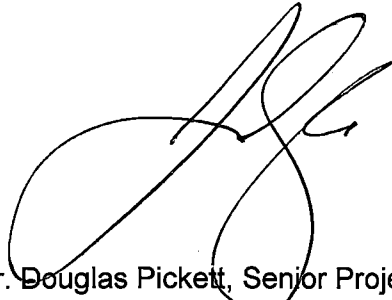
The apparent cause of the inoperability of R-26 due to intermittent spiking and alarms from initial troubleshooting was the Log Pico ammeter card in the radiation monitor electronics. This card was determined to be degraded but not the cause of the spiking. Further troubleshooting identified a faulty detector signal coming from the radiation detector located in containment.

- Plans and Schedule for Restoring Instrument to Operable

A new detector was purchased to replace the faulty detector. The new detector will require a transfer calibration to be performed in a Radiation Control Area (RCA). Special test cables and connectors are also required for performance of the calibration. Component and resource availability delayed the calibration. The components are now onsite. The new detector will have a transfer calibration performed in the RCA and then a containment entry at power scheduled to install the detector, which requires an EQ installation. Work to return R-26 to operable is scheduled to be complete by August 31, 2016.

Should you have any questions regarding this matter, please contact Mr. Robert Walpole, Manager, Regulatory Assurance, Indian Point Energy Center at (914) 254-6710.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'D. Pickett', written over a large, loopy scribble.

LC/cbr

cc: Mr. Douglas Pickett, Senior Project Manager, NRC NRR
Mr. Daniel H. Dorman, Regional Administrator, NRC Region I
NRC Senior Resident Inspectors Office
Mr. John B. Rhodes, President and CEO, NYSERDA
Mrs. Bridget Frymire, New York State Dept. of Public Service