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SUBJECT: Special rept: on 890829, RHR heat exchanger svc water radiation monitor inoperable.

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NINE MILE POINT NUCLEAR STATION / P.O. BOX 32 LYCOMING, NEW YORK 13093 / TELEPHONE (315) 343-2110

September 12, 1989

United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Attention: Document Control Desk
Washington, DC 20555

RE: Docket No. 50-410
SPECIAL REPORT

Gentlemen:

In accordance with Nine Mile Point Unit 2 Technical Specification Table 3.3.7.5-1.13, Action Statement 81-b, we are submitting the following Special Report concerning the inoperability of the Residual Heat Removal (RHR) Heat Exchanger Service Water Radiation Monitor.

EVENT DESCRIPTION

On August 29, 1989, at 0630 hours with the reactor in "Run" (operational condition 1) and at a power level of 99.9% rated thermal capacity, the RHR Heat Exchanger Service Water Radiation Monitor had been out of service for 72 hours. A 12 hour grab sampling program to monitor radiation levels has been in progress since the beginning of the event as required by Technical Specification (TS) Table 3.3.7.5-1.13, Action Statement 81-a.

The RHR Heat Exchanger Service Water Radiation Monitor (2SWP*CAB23B) was removed from service on August 26, 1989, to perform a routine inspection and cleaning of service water flow indicating switch (SWP*FIS1123B, located on the monitoring cabinet). Inability to return the system to an operable status within 72 hours requires submission of this Special Report to the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission within 14 days as specified by TS Action Statement 81-b.

CAUSE OF EVENT

The cause of the failure to restore service water radiation monitor (2SWP*CAB23B) to operable status within 72 hours has been determined to be the repair of the faulty float mechanism in the service water flow indicating switch (2SWP*FIS1123B). A contributing cause to this event was the time needed to troubleshoot and determine the effectiveness of the repair. It is suspected that the float is intermittently lodging on a pipe fitting and preventing the actuation of the low flow and equipment failure alarms.

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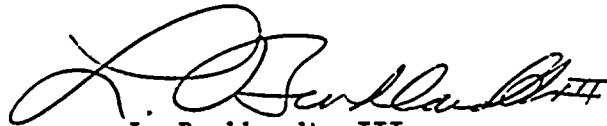
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ACTIONS TAKEN

On August 29, 1989, at 1054 hours, RHR Heat Exchanger Service Water Radiation Monitor (2SWP*CAB23B) was returned to operable status. An intermittent problem with the float switch is still being investigated. Additional monitoring during sample cabinet operation (when RHR Heat Exchanger is in use) is being performed to assure proper sample pump operation.

A Work Request (WR#154958) was initiated to troubleshoot the suspected problem associated with service water flow indicating switch (2SWP*FIS1123B). In addition, a Problem Report (PR#08834) was generated requesting an engineering evaluation of the flow switch installation configuration.

Sincerely,



L. Burkhardt, III
Executive Vice President
Nuclear Operations

LB/GB/lmc
(0858V)

xc: Mr. William T. Russell, Regional Administrator
Mr. William Cook, Senior Resident Inspector



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