

# ACCELERATED DISTRIBUTION DEMONSTRATION SYSTEM

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SUBJECT: Submits special rept re inoperability of gaseous effluent monitoring sys.

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NMP73919

October 15 , 1990

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 (NMP2) Technical Specification (TS) Table 3.3.7.10-1.3a, Action Statement 139-b, we are submitting the following Special Report concerning the inoperability of the Gaseous Effluent Monitoring System (GEMS).

EVENT DESCRIPTION

On September 26, 1990, at 1045 hours with the reactor mode switch in the "Refuel" position (Operational Condition 5), and reactor temperature at approximately 104 degrees Fahrenheit, the GEMS Radwaste/Reactor Building Vent Noble Gas Activity Monitor was declared inoperable. A 12-Hour Vent Noble Gas manual grab sample program was implemented as required by Technical Specification 3.3.7.10-1, Action Statement 139-a.

These actions were taken when the multi channel analyzer located in GEMS instrument panel 2RMS-RAK180 stopped measuring the noble gas activity in the effluent stream which resulted in the failure of the equipment to provide a scheduled analysis report.

CAUSE OF EVENT

Extensive efforts were made to determine the cause of the problem and return the system to service. A Work Request (WR No. 183715) was initiated to troubleshoot the failed equipment. Additionally, the equipment vendor, Canberra Industries, Inc., was contacted to provide further technical assistance in diagnosing the cause of the equipment failure. The vendor believes a potential cause for the inoperable multi-channel analyzer was the failure of one of six microprocessor boards located in the equipment. Heat stress, generated when the system's air conditioner was temporarily out of

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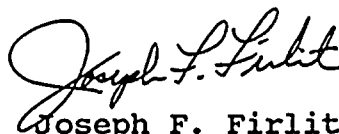
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service, may have led to a board failure. Replacement microprocessor boards were shipped by the vendor and received at the site within 24 hours following vendor notification. Following sequential replacement of selected boards as prescribed by the vendor, Instrument and Control Technicians were still unable to restore the GEMS Vent Noble Gas Monitor to a satisfactory level of service. Inability to return the system to service within 72 hours requires submission of this Special Report to the Nuclear Regulatory Commission within 14 days as specified in Technical Specification, Action Statement 139-b.

ACTIONS TAKEN

Per Niagara Mohawk Power Corporation's request, the equipment vendor, Canberra Industries, Inc., arranged for a service representative to arrive on site to provide technical assistance in troubleshooting, repairing, and returning GEMS to operable status. On October 10, 1990, a second set of microprocessor boards were installed and the system underwent post-maintenance testing prior to declaring GEMS operable. The system was returned to operable status on October 13, 1990. The vendor will perform a failure analysis on the removed microprocessor boards.

Sincerely,



Joseph F. Firlit  
Vice President - Nuclear Generation

JFF/GB/caf  
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xc: Regional Administrator, Region I  
Sr. Resident Inspector, W. A. Cook



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