

CATEGORY 1

REGULATORY INFORMATION DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM (RIDS)

ACCESSION NBR: 9712170187 DOC. DATE: 97/12/10 NOTARIZED: NO DOCKET #
FACIL: 50-410 Nine Mile Point Nuclear Station, Unit 2, Niagara Moha 05000410
AUTH. NAME AUTHOR AFFILIATION
CORELL, G. Niagara Mohawk Power Corp.
ABBOTT, R. B. Niagara Mohawk Power Corp.
RECIP. NAME RECIPIENT AFFILIATION

SUBJECT: LER 97-013-00: on 971110, ESFA occurred during calibration.
Caused by personnel error. Verified cause of ESFA, reset
signal & re-opened drywell vent & purge valves.
W/971210 ltr.

DISTRIBUTION CODE: IE22T COPIES RECEIVED: LTR 1 ENCL 1 SIZE: 5
TITLE: 50.73/50.9 Licensee Event Report (LER), Incident Rpt, etc.

NOTES:

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	NRR/DSSA/SPLB	1 1	NRR/DSSA/SRXB	1 1
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NIAGARA MOHAWK

GENERATION
BUSINESS GROUP

NINE MILE POINT NUCLEAR STATION/LAKE ROAD, P.O. BOX 63, LYCOMING, NEW YORK 13093

December 10, 1997
NMP1L 1275

U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Attn: Document Control Desk
Washington, DC 20555

RE: LER 97-13
Docket No. 50-220

Gentlemen:

In accordance with 10CFR50.73 (a)(2)(iv), we are submitting LER 97-13, "Engineered Safety Feature Actuation During Calibration Due to Personnel Error."

Very truly yours,

Richard B. Abbott
Plant Manager - NMP1

RBA/TWP/cmK
Enclosure

xc: Mr. H. J. Miller, Regional Administrator, Region I
Mr. B. S. Norris, Senior Resident Inspector
Records Management

IED 1/1



9712170187 971210
PDR ADCK 05000410
S PDR



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LICENSEE EVENT REPORT (LER)

ESTIMATED BURDEN PER RESPONSE TO COMPLY WITH THIS INFORMATION COLLECTION REQUEST: 50.0 HRS. FORWARD COMMENTS REGARDING BURDEN ESTIMATE TO THE RECORDS AND REPORTS MANAGEMENT BRANCH (P-530), U.S. NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION, WASHINGTON, DC 20555, AND TO THE PAPERWORK REDUCTION PROJECT (3150-0104), OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET, WASHINGTON, DC 20503

FACILITY NAME (1) Nine Mile Point Unit 1	DOCKET NUMBER (2) 05000220	PAGE (3) 1 OF 4
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TITLE (4)
Engineered Safety Feature Actuation During Calibration Due to Personnel Error

EVENT DATE (5)			LER NUMBER (6)			REPORT DATE(7)			OTHER FACILITIES INVOLVED (8)	
MONTH	DAY	YEAR	YEAR	SEQUENTIAL NUMBER	REVISION NUMBER	MONTH	DAY	YEAR	FACILITY NAMES	DOCKET NUMBER(S)
11	10	97	97	013	00	12	10	97	N/A	05000
									N/A	05000

OPERATING MODE (9) 4 THIS REPORT IS SUBMITTED PURSUANT TO THE REQUIREMENTS OF 10 CFR §: (Check one or more of the following) (11)

POWER LEVEL (10) 000	<input type="checkbox"/> 20.402(b) <input type="checkbox"/> 20.405(a)(1)(i) <input type="checkbox"/> 20.405(a)(1)(ii) <input type="checkbox"/> 20.405(a)(1)(iii) <input type="checkbox"/> 20.405(a)(1)(iv) <input type="checkbox"/> 20.405(a)(1)(v)	<input type="checkbox"/> 20.405(c) <input type="checkbox"/> 50.36(c)(1) <input type="checkbox"/> 50.36(c)(2) <input type="checkbox"/> 50.73(a)(2)(i) <input type="checkbox"/> 50.73(a)(2)(ii) <input type="checkbox"/> 50.73(a)(2)(iii)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 50.73(a)(2)(iv) <input type="checkbox"/> 50.73(a)(2)(v) <input type="checkbox"/> 50.73(a)(2)(vii) <input type="checkbox"/> 50.73(a)(2)(viii)(A) <input type="checkbox"/> 50.73(a)(2)(viii)(B) <input type="checkbox"/> 50.73(a)(2)(x)	<input type="checkbox"/> 73.71(b) <input type="checkbox"/> 73.71(c) <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER <i>(Specify in Abstract below and in Text, NRC Form 365A)</i>
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LICENSEE CONTACT FOR THIS LER (12)

NAME Gary Corell - Chemistry Manager NMP1	TELEPHONE NUMBER (315) 349-2070
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COMPLETE ONE LINE FOR EACH COMPONENT FAILURE DESCRIBED IN THIS REPORT (13)

CAUSE	SYSTEM	COMPONENT	MANUFACTURER	REPORTABLE TO NPRDS	CAUSE	SYSTEM	COMPONENT	MANUFACTURER	REPORTABLE TO NPRDS

SUPPLEMENTAL REPORT EXPECTED (14) <input type="checkbox"/> YES (If yes, complete EXPECTED SUBMISSION DATE) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO	EXPECTED SUBMISSION DATE (15)	MONTH	DAY	YEAR
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ABSTRACT (Limits to 1400 spaces, i.e., approximately fifteen single space typewritten lines) (16)

On November 10, 1997, at approximately 1400 hours, with Nine Mile Point Unit 1 (NMP1) in cold shutdown, an isolation of the drywell vent and purge lines was initiated while performing a calibration of stack gas radiation monitor RN-10B. The calibration was being performed following troubleshooting and repairs to restore operability. A higher activity gamma source was incorrectly used for the calibration procedure, and when placed in the vicinity of the detector to be calibrated, the activity of this source was sensed by the detectors for both radiation monitors RN-10A and RN-10B, causing a hi-hi radiation alarm of both monitors. The hi-hi radiation signals resulted in an automatic isolation/Engineered Safety Feature (ESF) actuation of the drywell vent and purge valves.

The root cause of the event was personnel error due to failure to properly self-check. The chemistry technician failed to ensure that he retrieved the correct radioactive source for the calibration procedure.

The calibration procedure was immediately stopped. The cause of the ESF actuation was verified, the signal was reset and the drywell vent and purge valves were reopened. An additional pre-job brief was held with all the involved parties and the primary calibration was successfully completed with direct supervision. The chemistry technician involved received disciplinary action. This event will be reviewed with all NMP1 chemistry personnel.



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LICENSEE EVENT REPORT (LER)
TEXT CONTINUATION

ESTIMATED BURDEN PER RESPONSE TO COMPLY WITH THIS INFORMATION COLLECTION REQUEST: 50.0 HRS. FORWARD COMMENTS REGARDING BURDEN ESTIMATE TO THE RECORDS AND REPORTS MANAGEMENT BRANCH (P-330), U.S. NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION, WASHINGTON, DC 20555, AND TO THE PAPERWORK REDUCTION PROJECT (3150-0104), OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET, WASHINGTON, DC 20503.

FACILITY NAME (1)	DOCKET NUMBER (2)	LER NUMBER (6)				PAGE (3)
		YEAR	SEQUENTIAL NUMBER	REVISION NUMBER		
Nine Mile Point Unit 1	05000220	97	- 13	- 00	02 OF 04	

TEXT (If more space is required, use additional NRC Form 366A's) (17)

I. DESCRIPTION OF EVENT

Nine Mile Point Unit 1 (NMP1) was in cold shutdown when stack gas radiation monitor RN-10B failed its calibration. This calibration was being performed to satisfy Technical Specification (TS) Surveillance Requirement (SR) 4.6.14.b, which requires that a channel calibration be performed once per year. A work order was issued to perform troubleshooting and repairs. After the detector tube was replaced and other possible causes were eliminated, it was decided that a primary calibration should be performed. Procedure N1-CSP-V325, OGESMS Noble Gas Detector Primary Calibration, requires the use of gamma sources during the calibration process. The sources were stored in two locations. When the chemistry technician retrieved one of the sources, he failed to verify the source number against the number in the work order. This incorrect source was a higher activity gamma source than the correct source.

On November 10, 1997, at approximately 1400 hours, when the incorrect source was positioned to perform the calibration on the detector, this higher activity gamma source was sensed by the detectors for both radiation monitors RN-10A and RN-10B, thereby causing a hi-hi radiation alarm of both monitors. The detectors are physically located next to each other. This initiated a trip signal in both channels and caused an automatic isolation/Engineered Safety Feature (ESF) actuation of the drywell vent and purge valves.

II. CAUSE OF EVENT

The root cause of the event was personnel error due to failure to properly self-check. The chemistry technician failed to ensure that he retrieved the correct radioactive source from one of the storage locations for the calibration procedure.

III. ANALYSIS OF EVENT

This event is reportable in accordance with 10CFR50.73(a)(2)(iv), "any event or condition that resulted in a manual or automatic actuation of any ESF, including the Reactor Protection System (RPS)."

NMP1 was in a forced outage for the replacement of all four Emergency Condenser (EC) tube bundles. The drywell was open for access for various maintenance activities that were in progress during the forced outage. Primary containment integrity was not required. The drywell vent and purge fan was being operated to provide ventilation flow for the drywell by exhausting air through the vent and purge valves. Drywell coolers were in operation as needed to provide temperature control for equipment cooling and personnel comfort.



LICENSEE EVENT REPORT (LER)
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FACILITY NAME (1)	DOCKET NUMBER (2)	LER NUMBER (5)			PAGE (3)
		YEAR	SEQUENTIAL NUMBER	REVISION NUMBER	
Nine Mile Point Unit 1	05000220	97	13	00	03 OF 04

TEXT (If more space is required, use additional NRC Form 366A's) (17)

III. ANALYSIS OF EVENT (cont'd)

Since the reactor was in cold shutdown and primary containment integrity was not required, there were no significant consequences. The valves were open for the purpose of ventilation to the drywell. The securing of this ventilation for a short duration had no significant impact on plant operation or safety. Therefore, there were no adverse consequences to the health and safety of the public or NMPC personnel.

IV. CORRECTIVE ACTIONS

The calibration procedure was immediately stopped. The cause of ESF actuation was verified, the signal was reset and the drywell vent and purge valves were reopened. The chemistry supervisor discussed this incident with the chemistry technician. An additional pre-job brief was held with all the involved parties and the primary calibration was successfully completed with direct supervision.

The chemistry technician involved received disciplinary action.

This event will be reviewed with all NMP1 chemistry personnel by January 31, 1998.

V. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

A. Failed components: none.

B. Previous similar events:

LER 89-16 described an ESF actuation caused by personnel error during a TS SR involving source checking the Offgas Effluent Stack Monitoring System (OGESMS). This error involved failure to reset the isolation signal on one channel before proceeding to the other channel. As a result, the corrective actions taken for that event would not have precluded this event.



LICENSEE EVENT REPORT (LER)
TEXT CONTINUATION

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FACILITY NAME (1) Nine Mile Point Unit 1	DOCKET NUMBER (2) 05000220	LER NUMBER (6)			PAGE (3) 04 OF 04
		YEAR 97	SEQUENTIAL NUMBER 13	REVISION NUMBER 00	

TEXT (If more space is required, use additional NRC Form 366A's) (17)

V. **ADDITIONAL INFORMATION** (cont'd)

C. Identification of components referred to in this LER:

COMPONENT	IEEE 803 FUNCTION	IEEE 805 SYSTEM ID
Drywell	N/A	NH
Vent/Purge/Nitrogen System	N/A	LK
Stack (Vent to Atmosphere)	N/A	VL
Radiation Monitors	MON	IL
OGESMS	N/A	IL



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