# ACCELERATED DETRIBUTION DEMONSTINATION SYSTEM

## REGULATORY INFORMATION DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM (RIDS)

ACCESSION NBR:93	.07230404 DOC.	DATE: 91/07/19	NOTARIZED:	NO	DOCKET #
FACIL: 50-387 St	Isquehanna Steam	Electric Statio	on, Unit 1,	Pennsylva	05000387
AUTH.NAME	AUTHOR AFFILI	LATION	• •	-	
WEHRY, R.R.	Pennsylvania I	Power & Light Co	<b>.</b>		
STANLEY, H.G.	Pennsylvania I	Power & Light Co	<b>.</b>		
RECIP.NAME	RECIPIENT AFE	FILIATION			

SUBJECT: LER 91-007-01:on 910619,C EDG failed to reach Tech Spec required speed,frequency & voltage withhin required time. Caused by air entrapment in fuel supply header.C EDG being tested once every seven days.W/910719 ltr.

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NOTES:LPDR 1 cy Transcripts.

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# Pennsylvania Power & Light Company

Two North Ninth Street • Allentown, PA 18101 • 215 / 770-5151

July 19, 1991

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

SUSQUEHANNA STEAM ELECTRIC STATION LICENSEE EVENT REPORT 91-007-00 FILE R41-2 PLAS - 491

Docket No. 50-387 License No. NPF-14

Attached is Licensee Event Report 91-007-00. This event was determined reportable per 10CFR50.73(a)(2)(vii) in that a single condition resulted in the potential for two or more independent channels to become inoperable in a single support system designed to shut down the reactor, maintain it in a safe shutdown condition and mitigate the consequences of an accident. Namely, air entrapment in the Emergency Diesel Generator (EDG) fuel oil headers, identified as the cause of a 'C' EDG slow start time on June 19, 1991, could potentially result in start times exceeding those required, when the EDGs are tested once per 31 days in accordance with the Technical Specifications.

G. Stanley

Superintendent of Plant - Susquehanna

RRW/mjm

cc: Mr. T. T. Martin Regional Administrator, Region I U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission 475 Allendale Road King of Prussia, PA 19406

> Mr. G. S. Barber Sr. Resident Inspector U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission P.O. Box 35 Berwick, PA 18603-0035

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NRC FOI (6-89)	U.S. NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION APPROVED OMB NO. 3150-0104																				
	EXPIRES: 4/30/92 ESTIMATED BURDEN PER RESPONSE TO COMPLY WITH TH INFORMATION COLLECTION REQUEST: 50.0 HRS. FORWAR COMMENTS REGARDING BURDEN ESTIMATE TO THE RECOR AND REPORTS MANAGEMENT BRANCH (P-530), U.S. NUCLEA REGULATORY COMMISSION, WASHINGTON, DC 20555, AND THE PAPERWORK REDUCTION PROJECT (3150 0104), OFTI OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET, WASHINGTON, DC 20503.									TH THIS DRWARD IECORDS UCLEAR AND TO OFFICE 503.											
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	and WILL DE IMPLEMENTED ON THE 'B' EDG DY AUGUST 10, 1991. UNTIL implementation, the 'B' EDG is being tested once every 15 days as a prudent																				
	measure. The 'C' EDG is being tested once every 7 days per Tech Spec Table																				
4.8.1.1.2-1. There were no safety consequences or compromise to public health																					
	or safety since three EDGs remained OPERABLE as required by the SSES Safety																				
	лиахуэхэ. NRC form 366 (6-89)																				

LICENSEE EVENT REPOR TEXT CONTINUATION	T (LER) N	APPROVED OMB NO. 31 EXPIRES: 4/30/93 ESTIMATED BURDEN PER RESPONSE INFORMATION COLLECTION REQUEST COMMENTS REGARDING BURDEN ESTI AND REPORTS MANAGEMENT BRANCH REGULATORY COMMISSION, WASHING THE PAPERWORK REDUCTION PROJE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET, WASH	50-0104 2 TO COMPLY WTH THIS 1: 500 HRS, FORWARD MATE TO THE RECORDS 1 (P-530), U.S. NUCLEAR TON, DC 20555, AND TO CT (3150-0104), OFFICE INGTON, DC 20503.
FACILITY NAME (1)	DOCKET NUMBER (2)	LER NUMBER (6)	PAGE (3)
Unit 1 <u>Susquehanna</u> Steam Electric Station TEXT (If more space is required, use additional NRC Form 388A's) (17)	0  5   0   0   0   3   8   7	YEAR         SEQUENTIAL         REVISION           9  1         0  0  7         0  0         0	0 20F0 9

US NICLEAD DECHI ATOON COMMENT

# DESCRIPTION OF EVENT

NRC FORM 366A

At 1458 hours on June 19, 1991, with both Unit 1 and Unit 2 in Condition 1 at 100% power, the 'C' Emergency Diesel Generator (EDG; EIIS Code: EK) failed to reach Technical Specification required speed, frequency and voltage within the required time of 10 seconds or less during its monthly operability test per Technical Specification 4.8.1.1.2.a. Measured start time was 24 seconds. The 'C' EDG was shutdown, Limiting Condition for Operation (LCO) ACTION 3.8.1.1 was taken for both Unit 1 and Unit 2 and a root cause investigation was commenced.

#### CAUSE OF EVENT

During the surveillance start on 6/19/91, Maintenance personnel were present to monitor key engine functions during the start. An installed visicorder provided a good record of important diesel generator parameters. The monitoring conclusively identified the cause of the slow start as a fuel oil delivery problem. This conclusion was based on the following:

- 0 Fuel oil pressure was observed to stay low for an extended duration into the start instead of rising in 2 to 8 seconds as is normal.
- 0 The Fuel Control Rack remained fully open for the start duration (normal operation)
- 0 Observed Air Start System operation was normal.
- 0 Visicorder traces showed all generator parameters to be normal.

Potential causes of a delay in fuel delivery to the engine cylinders are improper fuel control rack operation, failure of the Fuel Oil Booster Pump/Valves or excessive air in the fuel oil header.

The fuel control rack operation was normal, as observed by Maintenance personnel during the start. Inspection immediately after the slow start verified no fuel piping leaks which could have caused the failure. A manual start of the Fuel Oil Booster Pump was initiated to determine if a pump or pressure regulator valve problem was evident. During the manual start, fuel oil pressure rise was normal and within 2 seconds, demonstrating proper manual operation of the Booster Pump and a completely "solid" (no air voiding) fuel oil supply header.

To verify proper automatic Booster Pump operation, a troubleshooting start was performed on the 'C' EDG at 1611 hours, 6/19/91. The Booster Pump was observed to start immediately and stop after a few seconds, per its design. Fuel pressure was observed to rise to rated pressure within 3 seconds. All observations confirmed correct Booster Pump operation. The 'C' EDG start time during the troubleshooting run was 7.7 seconds.

	APPROVED OMB NO. 3150 0104 EXPIRES: 4/30/92 ESTIMATED BURDEN PER RESPONSE TO COMPLY WTH THIS INFORMATION COLLECTION REQUEST: 500 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)	DOCKET NUMBER (2)	LER NUMBER (6) PAGE (3)
Unit 1		YEAR SEQUENTIAL REVISION
<u>Susquehanna Steam Electric Static</u>	<u>o 5 0 0 3 8 7</u>	9 1 - 0 0 7 - 0 0 0 3 0 0 9
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The monthly surveillance test was repeated at 1715 hours on 6/19/91. The start time was normal at 7.6 seconds. Again, monitoring by Maintenance personnel confirmed proper fuel system operation. The test was successfully completed in its entirety and the 'C' EDG was shutdown at 2132 hours on 6/19/91.

Based on the investigation, the most probable cause of the 'C' EDG slow start has been concluded to be excessive air trapped in the fuel supply header existing prior to the initial surveillance run on 6/19/91. The cause of air entrapment within the fuel supply header is believed to be due to an injection pump flowing vent modification which had been implemented on the 'C' EDG in August 1990. The flowing vent modification had been installed to alleviate an injection pump overheating problem at idle or low power engine operation by draining excess fuel oil back to the main fuel oil storage tanks. The new flowing vents have been found ineffective in venting air from the fuel header during startup. This modification had been installed on EDGs 'A' through 'D' between August and October 1990. It should be noted that EDG 'E', which is a fifth and spare EDG at Susquehanna, is of a different design and did not require this modification. Warmer outside temperatures experienced recently have made the problem more evident as decreased fuel oil viscosity results in faster draining, thus increasing the rate at which air enters the fuel header.

Prior to the 'C' EDG 6/19/91 slow start, a concern for potential voiding of a fuel supply header had only been surmised for the 'D' EDG. The 'D' EDG had experienced a slow start on March 25, 1991 during a maintenance troubleshooting run. Although the root cause of the 'D' EDG slow start could not be conclusively determined, one potential contributor was identified as the modification to the fuel oil flowing vent lines. As a result, the flowing vent lines were re-modified to eliminate a potential fuel header voiding problem (see attached sketches). Similar re-modifications were developed at that time to be implemented as a precautionary measure on the 'A', 'B' and 'C' EDGs during their next inspection outages.

A start failure was experienced on the 'A' EDG on April 22, 1991 ( see Docket 50-388 LER 91-006-00). In-depth investigations determined the most likely cause of that event to be a sticky pneumatic valve which was not repeatable during testing. Incorrect fuel control rack operation resulting in the start failure was observed by maintenance personnel. Proper fuel oil pressure rise had been observed during that test and, as such, it is not believed that the flowing vent modification was the cause of that slow start.

### REPORTABILITY/ANALYSIS

This event was determined to be reportable per 10CFR50.73(a)(2)(vii) in that a single condition resulted in a potential for two or more independent channels to become inoperable in a single support system designed to shut down the reactor, maintain it in a safe shutdown condition and mitigate the consequences of an accident. Namely, air entrapment in the fuel supply headers of the EDGs, identified as the most probable cause of the 6/19/91 'C' EDG slow start and caused by a modification performed on 'A' through 'D' EDGs in 1990, could

NRC FORM 366A

NRC FORM 366A (6-89)	U.S. NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMM	SSION APPROVED OMB NO. 3150-0104
	REPORT (LER) JATION	EXPIRES: 4/30/92 ESTIMATED BURDEN PER RESPONSE TO COMPLY WTH THIS INFORMATION COLLECTION REQUEST: 500 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)	DOCKET NUMBER (2)	LER NUMBER (6) PAGE (3)
Unit 1		YEAR SEQUENTIAL REVISION
Susquehanna Steam Electric Static	on 0 15 to to 1 3 1 8	317 911 - 01017 - 010 014 oF0 10
TEXT (If more space is required, use additional NRC Form 305A's) (17)		
An injection pump flowing w 'D' EDGs between August and installed to alleviate an i power engine operation ( Th not require this modification concern for potential fuel	vent modification was im d October 1990. The flo injection pump overheati he 'E' EDG (spare EDG) i ion). Prior to the 6/19 supply header voiding h	plemented when the engines are chnical Specifications. plemented on the 'A' through wing vent modification was ng problem at idle or low s a different design and did /91 'C' EDG slow start, a ad only been identified
relative to the 'D' EDG, wh during a troubleshooting ru identify a definitive cause supply header as a result of potential contributor. As re-modified to eliminate th re-modifications were sched be implemented as a precaut	hich had experienced a s on. Although the root c of the flowing vent modil a precautionary measure he potential for fuel he duled for the 'A', 'B' and tionary measure during the	low start on March 25, 1991 ause investigation did not start, voiding in the fuel fication was identified as a , the flowing vent design was ader voiding. Similar nd 'C' EDGs at that time, to neir next inspection outages.
Following the 'C' EDG slow troubleshooting start was p started in 7.7 seconds. Th hours on 6/19/91, with a su verify 'C' EDG OPERABILITY, 0535 hours on 6/20/91 from failure mechanism was being between the previous three EDG was declared OPERABLE a	start at 1458 hours on operformed at 1611 hours. The monthly surveillance in accessful 'C' EDG start in the monthly surveillance ambient conditions in or g masked by the relative starts. This start was at 0535 hours on 6/20/91.	5/19/91, a Maintenance The EDG successfully test was repeated at 1712 time of 7.6 seconds. To be test was again repeated at oder to verify that no other by short shutdown time also successful and the 'C'
As a result of the 6/19/91 there were two (2) 'C' EDG test interval, therefore, i Specification Table 4.8.1.1 shall be maintained until s performed and the number of reduced to one or less. Ho header air entrapment durir	slow start, the 'C' EDG failures in the last 20 is one start at least ond 1.2-1. Per Table 4.8.1.1 seven consecutive failure failures in the last 20 owever, in light of the p ng longer periods of no o	Start Log indicated that valid tests. The 'C' EDG e per 7 days per Technical 2-1, this test frequency free demands have been valid demands has been otential for fuel supply operation, as determined by

Following the 6/19/91 'C' EDG slow start, the 'A' and 'B' EDGs were started to demonstrate that a voiding problem was not affecting their start times. Both starts were successful (previous starts on both EDGs had been 19 days earlier). As a prudent measure, PP&L has implemented a testing interval on the 'A' and

the root cause analysis investigation, PP&L shall continue the 'C' EDG test interval of one start at least once per seven days until the re-modification to the flowing vents is implemented. Potential partial draining of the header appears to be dependent on the time the engine sits idle. The problem has not been experienced when the engine is run more frequently than once per 31 days. The once every 7 days testing of the 'C' EDG to date has been successful with

no recurrences of start times exceeding 10 seconds.

NRC FORM (6-89)	4 366A U.S	NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION	APPROVED ONR NO 3150 0104
	LICENSEE EVENT REPORT TEXT CONTINUATION	(LER)	EXPIRED OMB NO. 31500104 EXPIRES: 4/30/92 ESTIMATED BURDEN PER RESPONSE TO COMPLY WTH THIS INFORMATION COLLECTION REQUEST: 50.0 HRS, FORWARD COMMENTS REGARDING BURDEN ESTIMATE TO THE RECORDS AND REPORTS MANAGEMENT BRANCH (P530), U.S. NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION, WASHINGTON, DC 20555, AND TO THE PAPERWORK REDUCTION PROJECT (31500104), OFFICE DE MANAGEMENT ALLO BURGET WASHINGTON DC 2005
FACILITY P	NAME (1)	DOCKET NUMBER (2)	LEB MINDED (4)
Unit	1 <u>ehanna Steam Electric Station</u>	0 5 0 0 0 3 8 7	
TEXT (If mor	<ul> <li>* Avece is required, use additional NRC Form 305(4)(17)</li> <li>'B' EDGs of one start every 15 day each EDG until the flowing vent reaction of the flowing vent re-modification is expected to be implemented on the transform their design of the evert of this event. Although the 3.8.1.1 for 14 hours and 37 minuted troubleshooting, it was actually a start time following the purging of CORRECTIVE ACTIONS</li> <li>Inspections immediately after the could have lead to the slow start. initiated to determine if a pump of evident. Fuel pressure rise was more proper operation of the Booster Put fuel supply header.</li> <li>Fuel Control rack operation was obs seconds later per its design. Fue pressure within 3 seconds.</li> <li>The monthly surveillance test was proper fuel system operation was an analysis.</li> </ul>	vs. This test interv e-modification is imp has been completed on the 'B' EDG by August or this event as required or compromise to pub the 'C' EDG was inoper and the investi- total able for operation of air from its fuel failure verified no A manual Fuel Oil or pressure regulator formal and within 2 s and a completely eserved to be normal. med and the 'C' EDG served to start immed of pressure was obser repeated. Start tim-	<pre>val shall continue for val start the SSES Safety val to do so. As such, val start time was 7.7 val start time was 7.7 val start time vas 7.7 val start time vas 7.7 val start time vas 7.6 seconds.</pre>
	The 'C' EDG was started from ambie purpose of this restart was to ver masked by the relatively short shu Following the successful start, th	nt conditions at 053 ify that no other fa tdown times between e 'C' EDG was declar	5 hours on 6/20/91. The ilure mechanism was being the previous starts. ed OPERABLE.
	The 'C' EDG is being tested once e Technical Specification requiremen on the 'A' and 'B' EDGs. As a pru once every 15 days until the flowi them. The flowing vent re-modific EDGs. It is anticipated that the implemented on the 'B' EDG by Augu	very seven days in a ts. Additionally, P dent measure, these ng vent re-modificat ation has been compl flowing vent re-modi st 16, 1991.	ccordance with the P&L performed start tests EDGs are being started ion is implemented on eted on the 'A' and 'C' fication will be

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NRC FORM 386A (6-89)	U.S. NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION	APPROVED OMB NO. 3150-0104						
LICENSEE EVENT REPO TEXT CONTINUATIO	EXPIRES: 4/30/92 ESTIMATED BURDEN PER RESPONSE TO COMPLY WTH 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 2055, 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)						
11		YEAR WEAR NUMBER						
Susquehanna Steam Electric Station	0 15 10 0 0 3 18 7	911 -01017 -010 016 0F0 19						
TEXT (If more space is required, use additional NRC Form 366A's) (17)	╺───┴──┴──┼──┴──┴──┴──	┶╌╽──┤──┤──┤──┤──┤──┤──┤──┤──┤──┤──┤						
ADDITIONAL INFORMATION This Licensee Event Report also Special Report per Technical Sp valid or non-valid.	o fulfills the requirement pecification 4.8.1.1.4	ent for issuance of a for all EDG failures,						
Failed Component Identification	a: None identified							
Previous Similar Events: Ll 7 sl	ER 90-015-00 reported a 26/90. The cause of th neared 1" reducer on the	slow start on the 'A' EDG he slow start was a e air start header piping.						
Pi or wa	AS-455 (Special Report) the 'D' EDG on 10/30/9 as determined.	) described a slow start 90. No positive root cause						
P or a P s	LAS-428 (Special Report) the 'E' EDG on 5/15/90 tributed to air infilt iping as a result of a b uction flange leak.	) described a slow start O. This slow start was ration into the fuel oil Fuel Oil Booster pump						

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