

ACCELERATED DISTRIBUTION DEMONSTRATION SYSTEM

REGULATORY INFORMATION DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM (RIDS)

ACCESSION NBR: 9106210300 DOC. DATE: 91/06/14 NOTARIZED: NO DOCKET # 05000335
 FACIL: 50-335 St. Lucie Plant, Unit 1, Florida Power & Light Co.
 AUTH. NAME AUTHOR AFFILIATION
 KILROY, T. Florida Power & Light Co.
 SAGER, D.A. Florida Power & Light Co.
 RECIP. NAME RECIPIENT AFFILIATION

SUBJECT: LER 91-004-00: on 910516, late fire watch patrol of shield bldg discovered. Caused by personnel error. Shield bldg exhaust fan secured to allow access to annulus & fire watch entered annulus & performed patrol. W/910614 ltr.

DISTRIBUTION CODE: IE22T COPIES RECEIVED: LTR 1 ENCL 1 SIZE: 4
 TITLE: 50.73/50.9 Licensee Event Report (LER), Incident Rpt, etc.

NOTES:

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	PD2-2 LA	1	1	PD2-2 PD	1	1
	NORRIS, J	1	1			
INTERNAL:	ACNW	2	2	ACRS	2	2
	AEOD/DOA	1	1	AEOD/DSP/TPAB	1	1
	AEOD/ROAB/DSP	2	2	NRR/DET/ECMB 9H	1	1
	NRR/DET/EMEB 7E	1	1	NRR/DLPQ/LHFB10	1	1
	NRR/DLPQ/LPEB10	1	1	NRR/DOEA/OEAB	1	1
	NRR/DREP/PRPB11	2	2	NRR/DST/SELB 8D	1	1
	NRR/DST/SICB8H3	1	1	NRR/DST/SPLB8D1	1	1
	NRR/DST/SRXB 8E	1	1	REG FILE 02	1	1
	RES/DSIR/EIB	1	1	RGN2 FILE 01	1	1
EXTERNAL:	EG&G BRYCE, J.H	3	3	L ST LOBBY WARD	1	1
	NRC PDR	1	1	NSIC MURPHY, G.A	1	1
	NSIC POORE, W.	1	1	NUDOCS FULL TXT	1	1

NOTE TO ALL "RIDS" RECIPIENTS:

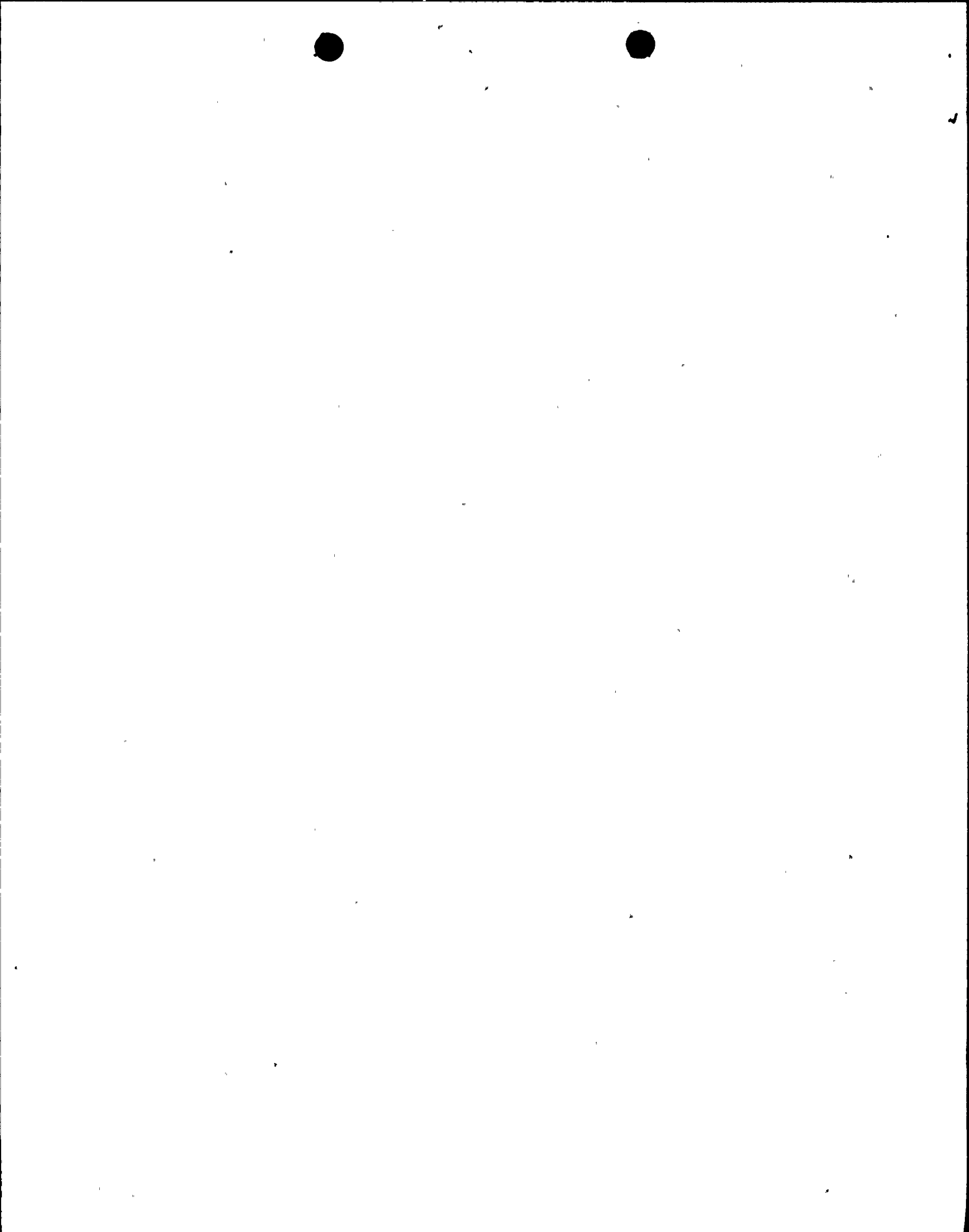
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June 14, 1991

L-91-177
10 CFR 50.73

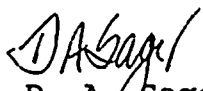
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Attn: Document Control Desk
Washington, D. C. 20555

Gentlemen:

Re: St. Lucie Unit 1
Docket No. 50-335
Reportable Event: 91-04
Date of Event: May 16, 1991
Late Technical Specification Required Fire
Watch Patrol Due to Personnel Error

The attached Licensee Event Report is being submitted pursuant to the requirements of 10 CFR 50.73 to provide notification of the subject event.

Very truly yours,


D. A. Sager
Vice President
St. Lucie Plant

DAS/JJB/kw

Attachment

cc: Stewart D. Ebnetter, Regional Administrator, USNRC Region II
Senior Resident Inspector, USNRC, St. Lucie Plant

DAS/PSL #455

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LICENSEE EVENT REPORT (LER)

ESTIMATED BURDEN FOR RESPONSE TO COMPLY WITH THIS INFORMATION COLLECTION
REQUIREMENT: 500 HRS. FORWARD COMMENTS REGARDING BURDEN ESTIMATE TO THE
RECORDS AND REPORTS MANAGEMENT BRANCH (P-335), U.S. NUCLEAR REGULATORY
COMMISSION, WASHINGTON, DC 20545, AND TO THE PAPERWORK REDUCTION PROJECT (P-335-0104), OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET, WASHINGTON, DC 20503.

FACILITY NAME (1) St. Lucie Unit 1	DOCKET NUMBER (2) 05000335	PAGE (3) 1 OF 03
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TITLE (4) **Late Technical Specification Required Fire Watch Patrol 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)
05	16	91	91	004	00	06	14	91	N/A		05000335

OPERATING MODE (9) 1	THIS REPORT IS SUBMITTED PURSUANT TO THE REQUIREMENTS OF 10 CFR : (Check one or more of the following) (11)						
POWER LEVEL (10) 100	20.402(b)		20.405(c)		50.73(a)(2)(iv)		73.71(b)
	20.405(a)(1)(i)		50.36(c)(1)		50.73(a)(2)(v)		73.71(c)
	20.405(a)(1)(ii)		50.36(c)(2)		50.73(a)(2)(vii)		OTHER (Specify in Abstract below and in Text NRC Form 366A)
	20.405(a)(1)(iii)		X 50.73(a)(2)(i)		50.73(a)(2)(viii)(A)		
	20.405(a)(1)(iv)		50.73(a)(2)(ii)		50.73(a)(2)(viii)(B)		
20.405(a)(1)(v)		50.73(a)(2)(iii)		50.73(a)(2)(x)			

LICENSEE CONTACT FOR THIS LER (12)

NAME Tom Kilroy , Shift Technical Advisor	TELEPHONE NUMBER
	AREA CODE 407 465 - 3550

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)	EXPECTED SUBMISSION DATE (15)	MONTH	DAY	YEAR
<input type="checkbox"/> YES (If yes, complete EXPECTED SUBMISSION DATE) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO				

ABSTRACT (Limit to 1400 spaces. i.e. approximately fifteen single-space typewritten lines) (16)

On 16 May, 1991, while operating at 100% power, St. Lucie Unit 1 experienced a late fire watch patrol of the shield building annulus area. Due to modifications being performed to the Unit 1 Fire Detection system, the "B" side Fire Detection system was out of service, for which Technical Specification 3.3.3.7 requires an 8 hour fire watch inspection of the shield building annulus. A concurrent 10 hour surveillance run of a shield building exhaust fan created a differential pressure across the annulus door that made it impossible to open and gain access to perform the inspection. Upon notification of this condition, the control room senior reactor operator assumed that the fire watch was required shiftly rather than every 8 hours, and continued the exhaust fan surveillance. When the site Fire Protection department later notified the control room that the fire watch was late, operators secured the 6B Shield Building Exhaust fan to allow the fire watch to be performed.

The cause of this event was personnel error. The surveillance run of the shield building exhaust fan interfered with the scheduled fire watch, resulting in the fire watch time interval being exceeded.

Corrective actions for this event were to secure the shield building exhaust fan to allow access to the annulus, perform the required fire patrol, and defer the exhaust fan surveillance until the B side Fire Detection system was placed back in service. The Training Department will review this event for possible incorporation into the Licensed Operator Requalification Training program, and Control Room supervision will receive counselling on correct interpretation of Technical Specification fire watch requirements.

**LICENSEE EVENT REPORT (LER)
TEXT CONTINUATION**

ESTIMATED BURDEN FOR RESPONSE TO COMPLY WITH THIS INFORMATION COLLECTION
REQUEST: 80.8 HRS. FORWARD COMMENTS REGARDING BURDEN ESTIMATE TO THE
RECORDS AND REPORTS MANAGEMENT BRANCH (P-632), U.S. NUCLEAR REGULATORY
COMMISSION, WASHINGTON, DC 20545, AND TO THE PAPERWORK REDUCTION PROJECT (P-
3150-0104), OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET, WASHINGTON, DC 20503.

FACILITY NAME (1) St. Lucie Unit 1	DOCKET NUMBER (2) 05000335	LER NUMBER (6)			PAGE (3)		
		YEAR 91	SEQUENTIAL NUMBER 004	REVISION NUMBER 00			
						02 OF 03	

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

DESCRIPTION OF THE EVENT

On May 13 1991, St. Lucie Unit 1 was operating at 100% power. Modifications were started on the Fire Detection System circuitry (EIS:IC). These modifications required that the affected side of the Fire Detection circuitry (either "A" or "B") be taken out of service. Technical Specification 3.3.3.7 requires that a fire watch be established and a fire patrol be performed every 8 hours in the containment shield building annulus area while the associated fire detectors are out of service.

On May 15 at 2230, an 8 hour fire watch patrol was performed on the shield building annulus. At 0100 on May 16, Operations began the monthly 10 hour surveillance run of the 6B Shield Building Exhaust fan (EIS:VC), per Tech Spec 3.6.6.1. At 0630, contractor maintenance personnel on the fire watch team made an attempt to access the annulus to perform the fire watch, but the annulus door could not be opened due to the differential pressure created by the fan. The control room was notified, but the utility licensed senior reactor operator assumed that the fire patrol was required shiftly (Technical Specifications define "shiftly" requirements as those to be performed every 12 hours), rather than every 8 hours, and did not verify his assumption against the Technical Specifications. At 0840, the contractor notified the utility Fire Protection department that the fire watch was not performed. At that time, the control room was contacted and the 6B Shield Building Exhaust fan was secured. The annulus fire watch was performed at 0913, after a period of 10 hours, 43 minutes.

CAUSE OF THE EVENT

The root cause of this event was personnel error by a utility licensed Senior Reactor Operator. The required 8 hour fire watch of the annulus area was delayed by the concurrent performance of the 10 hour monthly surveillance run of the 6B Shield Building Exhaust fan. The differential pressure across the annulus door was such that it was physically impossible to open the door. Additionally, when the Unit 1 Senior Reactor Operator was notified of the problem, he incorrectly assumed that the fire watch was a shiftly (12 hour) requirement, rather than an 8 hour requirement. There were no unusual characteristics of the work location that contributed to the error, nor were any actions taken contrary to any approved plant procedures.

LICENSEE EVENT REPORT (LER)
TEXT CONTINUATION

ESTIMATED BURDEN PER RESPONSE TO COMPLY WITH THIS INFORMATION COLLECTION
REQUEST: 1.5 HRS. FORWARD COMMENTS REGARDING BURDEN ESTIMATE TO THE
RECORDS AND REPORTS MANAGEMENT BRANCH (P-432), U.S. NUCLEAR REGULATORY
COMMISSION, WASHINGTON, DC 20545, AND TO THE PAPERWORK REDUCTION PROJECT,
3150-0104, OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET, WASHINGTON, DC 20503.

FACILITY NAME (1) St. Lucie Unit 1	DOCKET NUMBER (2) 05000335	LER NUMBER (6)			PAGE (3)	
		YEAR	SEQUENTIAL NUMBER	REVISION NUMBER		
		91-	004	00	03	OF 03

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

ANALYSIS OF THE EVENT

Technical Specification 3.3.3.7 lists a minimum number of fire detectors that must be operable for plant operation. With the number of detectors in a given zone less than the number required to be operable, a periodic fire watch must be initiated and a fire patrol be continually performed. This specification requires a minimum of 1 operable detector in zone B of the annulus region. With the "B" side Fire Detection system taken out of service, no fire detectors were available in zone B of the annulus, and thus, an 8 hour fire watch was established. Both zone A detectors were operable throughout the entire event. The zone A and zone B detectors occupy the same general area and are not separated by any physical barriers; thus fire detection in the annulus was available throughout this time period. The total elapsed time between fire patrols was 10 hours and 43 minutes, which only slightly exceeded the 8 hour interval required by Tech Specs. The health and safety of the public was not endangered at any time during this time period.

CORRECTIVE ACTIONS

- 1) Operations secured the 6B Shield Building Exhaust fan to allow access to the annulus for the fire watch.
- 2) The fire watch entered the annulus and performed the required fire watch patrol.
- 3) The 6B Shield Building Exhaust fan surveillance was deferred until the B side fire detection system was placed back in service.
- 4) Training will review this event for possible incorporation into the Licensed Operator Requalification Training program.
- 5) Control Room supervision will receive counselling on correct interpretation of Technical Specification fire watch requirements.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Previous Similar Events

For the most recent similar event, see LER 335-83-25, "Surveillance of Fire Stations"

Failed Components

None