



Public Service Electric and Gas Company 80 Park Place Newark, N.J. 07101 Phone 201-430-7000

February 12, 1981

Mr. Boyce H. Grier
Director of USNRC
Office of Inspection and Enforcement
Region 1
631 Park Avenue
King of Prussia, Pennsylvania 19406

Dear Mr. Grier:

LICENSE NO. DPR-70
DOCKET NO. 50-272
REPORTABLE OCCURRENCE 81-09/01T

Pursuant to the requirements of Salem Generating Station Unit No. 1 Technical Specifications, Section 6.9.1, we are submitting Licensee Event Report for Reportable Occurrence 81-09/01T. This report is required within fourteen (14) days of the occurrence.

Sincerely yours,

R. A. Uderitz
General Manager -
Nuclear Production

CC: Director, Office of Inspection
and Enforcement (40 copies)
Director, Office of Management
Information and Program Control
(3 copies)

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Report Number: 81-09/01T
Report Date: February 12, 1981
Occurrence Date: 1/29/81
Facility: Salem Generating Station, Unit 1
Public Service Electric & Gas Company
Hancocks Bridge, NJ 08038

IDENTIFICATION OF OCCURRENCE:

Unidentified Leak in Containmentment

CONDITIONS PRIOR TO OCCURRENCE:

Mode 1 - Rx Power 55% - Unit Load 570 MW

DESCRIPTION OF OCCURRENCE:

During normal operations on January 29, 1981, it was discovered that the Containment Sump had 4.3 gpm of unidentified leakage. Action Statement 3.4.6.2.b was entered at 1450 hours because this leakage rate exceeded the 1 gpm leakage rate allowed by Technical Specifications. The Action Statement requires that the leakage rate be reduced to within required limits (1 gpm) within 4 hours or be in at least hot standby within the next 6 hours and in cold shutdown within the following 30 hours.

In an attempt to identify the source of leakage, operations personnel measured the flow rate of water run-off from the drain pans under each Containment Fan Cooling Unit. The No. 12 Containment Fan Unit read 3.5 gpm. Subsequent investigation showed that Condensate Leak Rate returned to normal. The operators mistakenly assumed that the No. 12 Fan Cooling Unit had a service water leak and notified the NRC IAW NRC IE Bulletin No. 80-24 of this erroneous plant condition. The Action Statement was terminated at 1820 hours.

Subsequent inspection of containment revealed that the No. 12 Fan Cooling Unit was not leaking.

During startup on January 30, 1981, the Containment Sump Level Monitoring System was declared inoperable because of erratic operation. The pump was starting approximately every 40 minutes and running for about 12 seconds each time it started. Action Statement 3.4.6.1.b was entered at 1635 hours.

On this date, the No. 11 Sump Pump was inoperative while repairs were being made to correct an input line blockage. With this pump inoperative, LD7749 was also inoperative. This level detector alternately starts the No. 11 or No. 12 Sump Pump on a high level in the sump. LD7750 starts the No. 11 and the No. 12 Sump Pumps on a level in the sump higher than the setpoint of LD7749. When LD7750 is operating properly, the sump should be pumped down to a level slightly higher than the setpoint of LD7749. LD7749 and LD7750 operate over the same span (1 foot of level).

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Apparently, the operators on shift miscalculated the leakage rate of the sump because of the erratic operation of LD7750 and assumed that there was an unidentified leak in containment.

DESIGNATION OF APPARENT CAUSE OF OCCURRENCE:

Equipment Failure
LD7750 (Magnetrol Level Detector) is not operating properly.

ANALYSIS OF OCCURRENCE:

It appears that the float on LD7750 is loose or canted in its well. Repair or replacement of LD7750 will take place at the next maintenance outage.

CORRECTIVE ACTION:

LD7750 has been isolated from the control circuitry of the Sump Pumps. At the next major outage, it will be repaired or replaced. The Action Statement was terminated at 0500 hours on January 31, 1981.

FAILURE DATA:

Magnetrol
Level Detector - Model A103F - EP/VP-TDM-X
Serial No. 568349

Prepared By W. J. Steele
SORC Meeting No. 81-10

H. J. Medina
Manager of Salem Generating Station