



Public Service Electric and Gas Company P.O. Box 236 Hancocks Bridge, New Jersey 08038-0236

Nuclear Business Unit

AUG 24 1996

LR-N96263

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

Gentlemen:

**LER 272/96-017-00
SALEM GENERATING STATION - UNIT 1
FACILITY OPERATING LICENSE NO. DPR-70
DOCKET NO. 50-272**

This Licensee Event Report entitled "Missed Surveillance for Plant Vent" is being submitted pursuant to the requirements of the Code of Federal Regulations 10CFR50.73(a)(2)(i)(B).

Sincerely,

David F. Garchow
General Manager -
Salem Operations

Attachment

SORC Mtg. 96-114

JMO/tcp

C Distribution
LER File 3.7

9609050062 960824
PDR ADOCK 05000272
S PDR

IE22/1

The power is in your hands.

Attachment A

The following represents the commitments that Public Service Electric & Gas (PSE&G) made to the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) relative to this LER (272/96-017-00). The commitments are as follows:

1. The LCO compensatory action was immediately completed upon discovery of the missed Technical Specification requirement.
2. Chemistry heightened personnel awareness as to the cause of this issue stressing the need for clear communication when dealing with Technical Specification requirements.
3. Individual responsible for this missed surveillance received disciplinary action.

LICENSEE EVENT REPORT (LER)

(See reverse for required number of digits/characters for each block)

ESTIMATED BURDEN PER RESPONSE TO COMPLY WITH THIS MANDATORY INFORMATION COLLECTION REQUEST: 50.0 HRS. REPORTED LESSONS LEARNED ARE INCORPORATED INTO THE LICENSING PROCESS AND FED BACK TO INDUSTRY. FORWARD COMMENTS REGARDING BURDEN ESTIMATE TO THE INFORMATION AND RECORDS MANAGEMENT BRANCH (T-8 F33), U.S. NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION, WASHINGTON, DC 20555-0001, AND TO THE PAPERWORK REDUCTION PROJECT (3150-0104), OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET, WASHINGTON, DC 20503.

FACILITY NAME (1) SALEM GENERATING STATION UNIT 1	DOCKET NUMBER (2) 05000272	PAGE (3) 1 OF 3
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TITLE (4)
Missed Surveillance for Plant Vent

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 NAME	DOCKET NUMBER
07	25	96	96	017	00	08	24	96	FACILITY NAME	DOCKET NUMBER

OPERATING MODE (9) N	THIS REPORT IS SUBMITTED PURSUANT TO THE REQUIREMENTS OF 10 CFR §: (Check one or more) (11)									
POWER LEVEL (10) 000	20.2201(b)	20.2203(a)(2)(v)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	50.73(a)(2)(i)	50.73(a)(2)(viii)					
	20.2203(a)(1)	20.2203(a)(3)(i)		50.73(a)(2)(ii)	50.73(a)(2)(x)					
	20.2203(a)(2)(i)	20.2203(a)(3)(ii)		50.73(a)(2)(iii)	73.71					
	20.2203(a)(2)(ii)	20.2203(a)(4)		50.73(a)(2)(iv)	OTHER					
	20.2203(a)(2)(iii)	50.36(c)(1)		50.73(a)(2)(v)	Specify in Abstract below or in NRC Form 366A					
	20.2203(a)(2)(iv)	50.36(c)(2)		50.73(a)(2)(vii)						

LICENSEE CONTACT FOR THIS LER (12)	
NAME Dennis V. Hassler, LER Coordinator	TELEPHONE NUMBER (Include Area Code) 609-339-1989

COMPLETE ONE LINE FOR EACH COMPONENT FAILURE DESCRIBED IN THIS REPORT (13)										
CAUSE	SYSTEM	COMPONENT	MANUFACTURER	REPORTABLE TO NRRDS		CAUSE	SYSTEM	COMPONENT	MANUFACTURER	REPORTABLE TO NRRDS

SUPPLEMENTAL REPORT EXPECTED (14)				EXPECTED SUBMISSION DATE (15)		MONTH	DAY	YEAR
YES (If yes, complete EXPECTED SUBMISSION DATE).	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NO						

ABSTRACT (Limit to 1400 spaces, i.e., approximately 15 single-spaced typewritten lines) (16)

On July 25, 1996, at 1500 hours a required compensatory action was not performed on the Salem Unit 1 Plant Vent flow monitor, as required by Technical Specification (TS) 3.3.3.9, Table 3.3-13 Limiting Condition of Operation [LCO] Action #32. The LCO Action requires a flow reading be taken each 4 hours, this was not performed within the appropriate time interval. The cause for this missed TS action is attributed to personnel error.

Immediate corrective actions included performing the vent reading and administering disciplinary action to the responsible individual. Further, Chemistry has heightened awareness to the need for clear communications as a result of this event.

This event is reportable in accordance with 10 CFR 50.73[a] [2] [i] [B], any operation or condition prohibited by the plant's Technical Specifications.

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

FACILITY NAME (1)	DOCKET NUMBER (2)	LER NUMBER (6)			PAGE (3)	
SALEM GENERATING STATION UNIT 1	05000272	YEAR	SEQUENTIAL NUMBER	REVISION NUMBER	2	OF 3
		96	- 017	- 00		

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

PLANT AND SYSTEM IDENTIFICATION

Westinghouse - Pressurized Water Reactor

Vent Flow Monitor {IL}*

*Energy Industry Identification System EIIS codes and component function identifier codes appear as SS/CCCS

CONDITIONS PRIOR TO OCCURRENCE

At the time of identification, Salem Units 1 and 2 were shutdown and defueled.

DESCRIPTION OF OCCURRENCE

On July 25, 1996, at 1500 hours a required compensatory action was not performed on the Salem Unit 1 Plant Vent flow monitor as required by Technical Specification 3.3.3.9, table 3.3-13 LCO Action #32. The Technical Specification requires a flow reading be taken at 4 hour intervals.

On January 2, 1996, the Unit 1 Plant Vent flow monitor was declared inoperable because backup power was not available from the Diesel Generators. The compensatory action required is to obtain a Plant Vent flow measurement once per 4 hours. Unit 2 Plant Vent flow monitor has been declared inoperable since January 1, 1996, because backup power was not available from the Diesel Generators. The Chemistry Department is responsible for ensuring compensatory readings are performed on both Units. Unit 1 flow is obtained from the Plant Vent high range radiation monitor in the yard area and Unit 2 flow is obtained from Plant Vent radiation monitor in the Radiologically Controlled Area. Due to the distance between monitors, the technician coordinates with the Water Treatment System Operator (WTSO) to obtain the Unit 1 reading in the yard area. In this instance the technician assumed the WTSO would take the reading without prior notification.

On July 25, 1996, Unit 2 compensatory readings were obtained at 0725, 1025 and 1325 hours. Unit 1 compensatory readings were obtained at 0735 and 1035 hours. The Unit 1 1335 Plant Vent reading was not taken. During a review of the Count Room logs at 1450, a technician identified that the Unit 1 Plant Vent reading was not performed. The required Unit 1 Plant Vent reading was obtained at 1500. The Technical Specification requirement was missed by 25 minutes.

CAUSE OF OCCURRENCE

This event is attributed to personnel error. The cause is a communication breakdown and assumptions made between the technicians. Salem Chemistry has performed a very high number of radiation monitor compensatory actions in the past year. This event is not reflective of a programmatic or organizational problem.

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

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

PRIOR SIMILAR OCCURRENCES

There have been two similar events concerning Technical Specification compensatory samples. LER 311/96-001-00 involved missing a compensatory sample on the Waste Gas Analyzer (WGA). The WGA event was a communication issue during the shift turnover process. Corrective actions included changing shift schedules to ensure face-to face turnover communication would occur. In addition, a Technician, responsible for compensatory actions, is identified at the morning briefing meeting.

LER 272/96-003-00 involved exceeding the required sample and analysis time (e.g., sample and analysis required once per 24 hours. Sampled within 24 hours, but analyzed after 24 hours had passed.)

SAFETY CONSEQUENCES AND IMPLICATIONS

There were no safety consequences for this event. The plant is shutdown and defueled. If Plant Vent sample flow had been lost, the Control Room would have received an alarm because the monitor is available and in service. No Plant Vent alarms were received during this event.

Additionally, the decision to declare the monitors inoperable was very conservative since normal power was available. This issue has been reviewed and it has been determined that the monitors can be declared operable without the availability of backup power. Therefore, there were no safety consequences or implications with this event. The public health and safety were not affected.

CORRECTIVE ACTIONS

1. The LCO compensatory action was immediately completed upon discovery of the missed Technical Specification requirement.
2. Chemistry heightened personnel awareness as to the cause of this issue stressing the need for clear communication when dealing with Technical Specification requirements.
3. Individual responsible for this missed surveillance received disciplinary action.