

Surry Power Station, Unit 2
Docket No: 50-281
Report No: 78-032/03L-0
Event Date: 9/21/78

Heat Tracing Low Current

1. Description of Event:

With the unit in normal operation at rated power, routine surveillance indicated that heat tracing circuit 6A (Panel 11) was operating at less than the current specified in the surveillance document. No low temperature alarm was indicated.

Investigation for faulty heat tracing tape was initiated on the affected circuit. Faults were found on circuit 6A (Panel 11) Unit #2 serving manual boration and boric acid-to-blender bypass lines and were identified as being the result of boric acid attack on tape. The tape was replaced and circuit current verified to within specs of surveillance document.

The event constitutes a condition contrary to Technical Specification 3.2.B.5 and is reportable in accordance with Technical Specification 6.6.2.b.(2).

2. Probable Consequences/Status of Redundant Systems:

At all times during the event, the temperature in the piping served by the affected circuit was maintained as required. The redundant circuit was operable. There were at all times two operable flow paths for boric acid to the reactor. Therefore, the health and safety of the public were not affected.

3. Cause:

The reduced currents were due to boric acid damage to the heat tracing tape on the affected circuits.

4. Immediate Corrective Action:

The faults detected were repaired.

5. Scheduled Corrective Action:

The problem was corrected immediately and no further action is required.

6. Action Taken To Prevent Recurrence:

Continuous surveillance is maintained on the heat tracing systems as required for unit operation. No additional action is considered necessary.

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Heat Tracing Low Circuit (Continued)

7. Generic Implications:

This failure, as with others in the system, is considered random since no specific circuit or panel has exhibited repeated failure.