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Surry Power Station, Unit 1
Docket No: 50-280
Report No: 79-013/03L-0
Event Date: 4-10-79

Release of Water from Boron Recovery Test Tank to Discharge Canal Without Prior Sampling

1. Description of Event:

While preparing to release Boron Recovery Test Tank 1-BR-TK-2B, approximately 100 gallons were released prior to obtaining sample results as required by Technical Specification 3.11.A.4. The release occurred through the normal release flowpath which is continuously monitored for flow rate and radioactivity.

2. Probable Consequences of Event:

A sample taken and analyzed after the release verified that the amount of radioactivity discharged was 0.6% of the limit specified in 10 CFR 20. Since the release was well below allowable limits, the health and safety of the general public were not affected.

3. Cause:

This event was caused by an improper valve lineup for tank recirculation in preparation for sampling. Consequently, while making a planned release from another tank, a release flowpath was inadvertently established for the test tank.

4. Immediate Corrective Action:

All liquid waste releases were terminated until the problem was identified and corrected.

5. Subsequent Corrective Action:

A representative sample from the test tank was analyzed for radioactive content and it was verified that no significant release had occurred.

6. Action to Prevent Recurrence:

The Operations personnel involved have been reinstructed concerning this event.

7. Generic Implications:

There are no generic implications associated with this event.