MAC POHIM 36

EVENT DESCRIPTION AND PROBABLE CONSEQUENCES

During steady state operation, Control Room personnel observed an increasing trend in indicated torus water level on Control Room Indicators LI 16-19-46A/B. When an indicated level of 1.26' was reached (corresponding to 70,000 ft³) an orderly shutdown was initiated as necessitated by Technical Specification 3.7.A.8.

Upon investigation, it was determined that a bypass valve for the torus level transmitters had developed a packing leak thereby slowly draining the transmitters common reference leg and causing the erroneous readings. Technical Specification 3.2.G requires this post-accident instrumentation be operable during reactor operation. At no time was the torus water inventory out of specification. Since this indication was restored within the limiting 6 hours of Tech. Spec. Table 3.2.6, the plant shutdown was terminated and power operation was continued. Based on the above, the potential consequences to the health and safety of the public were minimal.

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