

Supplement to LER 79-075
Bracket No. 50-366

This supplement is offered as an explanation for the repeated violations that the plant has had on linear heat generation rate limits and time limits for adjusting APRMs for high peaking factors. The plant staff has been disturbed by the repeated instances of these violations, but it is believed that the largest contributing factor has been eliminated.

Subsequent to LERs 2-79-55, 58, 60, and 75 it has been determined that the Unit 2 feedwater instrumentation was calibrated 5% conservative and therefore process computer calculations of thermal power have been ~5% too high. Because peak LHGR is also closely related to calculated reactor power it is evident that nodal powers have been calculated ~5% high since the calibration error occurred. Removing this 5% conservatism from the power calculation negates the violation on LER 2-74-60 and significantly reduces the violation on LER 2-79-55.

The calibration error has also contributed to the problems that have been experienced with peaking factor. Because the 5% error resulted in the APRMs being set 5% high, load line problems were experienced earlier than necessary. This greatly hindered rod movements that would have helped lower the CMPF and prevented the adjustment of the APRMs to comply with Tech Spec 3.2.2.

Since the calibration error has been corrected LHGR margin has significantly improved and the rod withdrawal sequence has been successfully refined to reduce the peaking problems that usually occur at low powers. It is believed that these actions will significantly reduce the possibility of further recurrence of these type events in the future.