NRC FORM 366 (7-77)

LICENSEE EVENT REPORT

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JCP&L / GPU

Jersey Central Power & Light Company
Madison Avenue at Punch Bowl Road
Morristown, New Jersey 07960
(201) 455-8200

OYSTER CREEK NUCLEAR GENERATING STATION
Forked River, New Jersey 08731

Licensee Event Report
Reportable Occurrence No. 50-219/79-41/3L-0

Report Date

December 3, 1979

Occurrence Date

November 2, 1979

Identification of Occurrence

Failure to report effluent releases as per Technical Specifications, paragraph 6.9.3.c(1)a, parts 1, 2 and 3.

Conditions Prior to Occurrence

The plant was operating at steady state power. The major plant parameters at the time of the occurrence were:

Power:	Reactor, 1768.4 MWt
	Generator, 602 MWe
Flow:	Recirculation, 14.5×10^4 gpm
	Feedwater, 6.6×10^6 lbm/hr
Stack Gas Flow:	3.5×10^4 µCi/sec

Description of Occurrence

The new radwaste building ventilation monitoring system was not in service in a manner which could yield accurate effluent data from the time radioactive materials were introduced into the building in October 1978 to the present. Therefore, no effluent data for this release point was reported for this period.

The equipment, as installed, was mechanically functional; however, several modifications were necessary to facilitate calibration of the detectors and proper reduction of the data. These modifications consist of installation of valves for calibration of the gaseous detector and a total flow monitor/recorder for correlating sampled isotopes to total quantities released.

It should be noted that for a short period of time, the Augmented Off Gas Building was operated under the same condition for test.

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Apparent Cause of Occurrence

The cause of the occurrence was attributed to an inadequate design of the effluent monitoring system (lack of ability to calibrate the gaseous monitor) and the failure of plant management to recognize the reportability of the releases through the radwaste ventilation system.

Analysis of Occurrence

Although no complete data is available for this period, the expected total effluents released should be very low and only a small fraction of the isotopes released via the stack. The total ventilation flow passes through HEPA filters; therefore, essentially all of the particulate isotopes would be removed. Two rolls of filter paper were counted that would have run for approximately one month apiece. One had only background quantities of Cobalt 60 and Manganese 54 on them. The other roll indicated concentrations that were comparable with stack effluents. There was a period of time when the HEPA filters plugged and were torn in some places but there is no way to correlate this period with the time the filter paper was on.

Several iodine cartridges were installed on a nonscheduled basis. These were counted and the concentrations of Iodine 131 found were about 0.1% of normal stack effluents. As the total flow of the ventilation system is approximately 35,000 CFM as compared with a stack flow of 163,000 CFM, the total radwaste release would only be about 0.025% of the stack release.

The sources for gaseous activity are very limited in the new radwaste building. They are limited to any entrained gases in the liquid waste and decay of oidine to xenon in the various wastes. This would no reflect any noticeable increase over stack releases.

Corrective Action

Modifications to the system have been completed which enabled calibration of the detectors for reduction of data. Filters are being removed and analyzed at the same frequency as for stack effluent path. The same program will be performed for the Augmented Off Gas System prior to placing it in operation.

Failure Data

Not applicable.

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