(7-77) LICENSEE EVENT REPORT
CONTROL BLOCK:
0 1 N Y J A F 1 2 0 0 - 0 0 0 - 0 0 0 3 4 1
CON'T BEPORT L 6 0 5 0 0 0 3 3 3 7 0 1 0 2 8 0 6 0 2 1 2 8 0 9 EVENT DESCRIPTION AND PROBABLE CONSEQUENCES 10 0 2 Failure of the makeup water system neutralizer tank discharge value
allowed release of an estimated 50,000 gallons of regeneration waste
0 4 water with a pH value outside of the limits of Environmental TS 2.2.3.
0 5 Due to the short duration of the releases no significant environmental
0 6 effect should result. See attachment for details.
07
$ \begin{array}{c} 7 \\ \hline 8 \\ \hline 9 \\ \hline 7 \\ \hline 8 \end{array} \begin{array}{c} 8 \\ \hline 9 \\ \hline 10 \end{array} \begin{array}{c} SYSTEM \\ CODE \\ \hline 9 \\ \hline 10 \end{array} \begin{array}{c} GAUSE \\ CODE \\ \hline 11 \\ \hline 11 \\ \hline 12 \\ \hline 13 \end{array} \begin{array}{c} CAUSE \\ COMPONENT CODE \\ \hline 10 \\ \hline 18 \\ \hline 19 \\ \hline 10 \\ $
$\begin{array}{c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c $
$\begin{array}{c} 33 \\ 33 \\ 34 \\ 35 \\ 36 \\ 36 \\ 36 \\ 37 \\ 40 \\ 41 \\ 40 \\ 41 \\ 42 \\ 42 \\ 43 \\ 43 \\ 43 \\ 44 \\ 44 \\ 47 \\ 44 \\ 47 \\ 47$
1 0 The discharge valve was open due to sticking of the solenoid valve
[1] [caused by foreign material. Cleaning of the solenoid valve restored.
[1] operation of the tank discharge valve to normal. Procedure changes
1 3 to assure proper valve lineup should preclude recurrence. See
attachment for details.
FACILITY STATUS *s POWER OTHER STATUS (30) METHOD OF DISCOVERY DISCOVERY DISCOVERY 1 5 E (23) 10 12 13 44 45 (31) Operator Observation (32)
ACTIVITY CONTENT RELEASED OF RELEASE AMOUNT OF ACTIVITY 35 1 6 2 33 2 33 2 34 NA LOCATION OF RELEASE 36 NA 44 45 NA
PERSONNEL EXPOSURES NUMBER 1 7 0 0 0 37 Z 38 NA
LOSS OF OR DAMAGE TO FACILITY (13) TYPE DESCRIPTION NA 8002150 311 1 9 Z (12) NA
7 8 9 10 8 PUBLICITY ISSUED DESCRIPTION (45) NRC USE ONLY ISSUED DESCRIPTION (45) NA IIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIII
7 8 9 10 NAME OF PREPARER W. Verne Childs PHONE: (315) 342-3840

POWER AUTHORITY OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK JAMES A. FITZPATRICK NUCLEAR POWER PLANT

DOCKET NO. 50-333

ATTACHMENT TO LER 80-002/04X-1

Page 1 of 1

5

During normal operations, personnel noted that the air operated drain valve on the "B" waste neutralizer tank (42-AOV-111B) associated with the plant's makeup demineralizer system was open. The makeup demineralizer processes raw water from Lake Ontario for use where high purity water is required for other plant systems. The valve which was found open, and its companion valve on waste neutralizer tank "A" are normally closed except during discharge of the tank when the pH of the contents have been neutralized to within the pH limits of Environmental Technical Specifications, Paragraph 2.2.3.

Investigation indicates that the discharge valve for the "B" neutralizer tank may have been open since December 19, 1979. During the time period from December 19, 1979 until the valve was discovered open on January 2, 1980, two chemical regenerations of the makeup system cation and anion ion exchange beds were conducted resulting in a release of approximately 50,000 gallons of chemical wastes. Calculations indicate that at various times during the release of the chemical waste the pH could have varied between 4.0 and 9.1 compared to a limit of 6.0 to 9.0. In addition, Paragraph 2.2.3 requires pH and conductivity sampling and continuous measurement of the pH during release which was not conducted.

It should be noted that the event did not cause the release of any radioactive material and that in estimating the pH ranges discussed above, no credit was taken for possible buffering effects as a result of other chemical compounds which normally are present in the waters of Lake Ontario. In addition, the maximum release rate of the chemical waste was 300 GPM compared to dilution flow in the plants discharge tunnel of approximately 375,000 GPM. In view of these calculations, the release of 50,000 gallons of chemical waste should not cause any significant environmental damage.

Investigation revealed that the discharge valve (42-AOV-111B) was open due to sticking of the valves solenoid operator (42-SOV-111B). The solenoid valve was disassembled, cleaned, returned to service and satisfactory operation of 42-AOV-111B was restored. To preclude recurrence, the operating procedure associated with the makeup water treating system will be changed by February 15, 1980 to require verification of proper neutralizer tank drain valve position prior to the start of ion exchange bed regeneration or other activities which could result in the release of untreated and/or unmonitored wastes if the drain valve was open. Further, this event has been discussed with the personnel who operate the system to preclude recurrence.

NOTE: Revision 1 of this LER is submitted to include all of the required limiting conditions for operation which were not met and provide additional detail with respect to corrective action. Items 9, 17, 18 and the attachment were revised.