

DUKE POWER COMPANY  
OCONEE UNIT 2

Report No.: UE-270/75-15

Report Date: October 22, 1975

Event Date: September 11, 1975

Facility: Oconee Unit 2, Seneca, South Carolina

Identification of Event: Removal of incorrect letdown filter vent

Conditions Prior to Event: Unit in cold shutdown

Description of Event:

On September 11, 1975, while performing routine maintenance on Oconee Unit 2 "2A" letdown filter, the quick disconnect vent fitting from the "2B" letdown filter was inadvertently removed. This resulted in a release of reactor coolant to the letdown filter room. Immediately, the control room operator was notified and proper valves were closed to isolate the "2B" letdown filter and contain further leakage. With the filter isolated, the vent fitting was replaced and maintenance on the "2A" filter was continued.

Designation of Apparent Cause of Event:

The apparent cause of this event was the failure to properly identify the correct filter prior to vent removal. The letdown filter "2B" label had been removed from the wall in the filter room and the label for filter "2A," though still on the wall, was possibly obscured from view.

Analysis of Event:

This incident involved removal of the vent connection on a non-isolated letdown filter on a shutdown unit. The leakage was immediately secured and the workmen involved were monitored for radiation exposure. No significant internal or external exposure was noted. All activity was contained in the Auxiliary Building. In addition, since the unit was in a cold shutdown condition, this incident did not adversely affect unit operation. Therefore, it is concluded that the health and safety of the public were not affected by this incident.

Corrective Action:

In order to prevent recurrence of this incident, the identifying plastic tags will be replaced by large lettering painted on the walls beside the filters. Also, "A" or "B" will be painted on the filter containers themselves, clearly distinguishing between the two filters.

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