

ATTACHMENT

EVENT DESCRIPTION

On May 14, 1980, at 7:55 a.m. and again at 9:00 a.m. two radioactive releases occurred during a transfer of ion exchange resin. During this transfer process (slurrying), water carries the resin to a cask and the water is then piped to the Aerated Drains Tank (ADT). Twice during this process, increase in flow rates to the tank caused the level and pressure in the ADT to increase, forcing the gases (which had come out of solution) out of the tank in a "puff". The gases were filtered and carried to the stack by the plant ventilation system. These two events caused the Technical Specification limits for the rate at which these gases may be released to be exceeded by a factor of 1.7 and 2.6, respectively.

DOSE ASSESSMENT

The first release involved a discharge of 3.5 curies of noble gases over a four minute time period, while the second release involved a release of 6 curies over a four minute time frame. These events were classified as "unusual events" as specified by the Connecticut Yankee Emergency Plan and reporting requirements were fulfilled promptly. Site boundary whole body doses were conservatively calculated to be 0.2 millirem for the duration of these releases.

EVENT CAUSE

The cause of the incident was that this ion exchanger had been removed from service only a few hours before being slurried. Normally an ion exchanger is isolated for a number of weeks before being slurried, which allows for a sufficient decay time.

CORRECTIVE ACTION

The following corrective actions have been taken:

1. The procedure for slurrying the reactor coolant letdown ion exchangers has been modified to require a 45 day hold period after an ion exchanger is removed from service. This will allow more than sufficient decay time. If an ion exchanger must be slurried in less than the 45 day holdup period the ion exchanger will be flushed with demineralized water to the Primary Drain Tank (PDT) which will subsequently process the gases through the waste gas system. Once this flushing is completed the slurrying operation will proceed as normally performed.
2. Communications between the Control Room and the ion exchanger area were reviewed for their adequacy.