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October 25, 1989 MP-13660

Re: 10CFR50.73(a)(2)(iv)

U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission Document Control Desk Washington, D.C. 20555

Reference:

Facility Operating License No. NPF-49

Docket No. 50-423

Licensee Event Report 86-011-01

Gentlemen:

This letter forwards Licensee Event Report 86-011-01, a revision to Licensee Event Report 86-011-00 which was submitted on March 4, 1986, pursuant to 10CFR50.73(a) (2)(iv), any event or condition that resulted in automatic actuation of any Engineered Safety Feature (ESF).

Very truly yours.

NORTHEAST NUCLEAR ENERGY COMPANY

Stephen E. Scace Station Superintendent Millstone Nuclear Power Station

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SES/RDC:mo

Attachment: LER 86-011-01

cc: W. T. Russell, Region I Administrator

W. J. Raymond, Senior Resident Inspector, Millstone Unit Nos. 1, 2 and 3 D. H. Jaffe, NRC Project Manager, Millstone Unit No. 3

LICENSEE EVENT REPORT (LER)				APPROVED OMB NO 3160-0104 Extracted burden per response to comply with this information obliection request 50.0 hrs. Forward comments reparating burden estimate to the Reports Management Branch (p-630). U.S. Nuclear Repulatory Commission. Washington. DC 20565, and to the Paperwork Reduction Project (3150-0104. Office of Management and Budget, Washington. DC 20503.						
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This report is being submitted on a recurring problem with the Control Building Inlet Ventilation Radiation Monitors, HVC*RE16A and HVC*RE16B. At random times, interference spikes in the instrument loops caused spurious high radiation alarms. Control Building Isolation (CBI) signals for the respective train were generated as a result. These inadvertent actuations are being reported as a single event.

There were no adverse safety implications associated with this problem. By virtue of fail-safe design, the interference resulted in system actuation to the accident configuration.

The root cause has been identified as both broadcast and conducted electromagnetic interference. In signal processors 3HVC*RIY16A and 3HVC*RIY16B, the interference superimposed on the existing electrical signal representing radiation counts, producing signal levels which momentarily exceeded the high radiation alarm setpoint.

Corrective action consisted of installing a software change in both radiation monitors which prevents alarm generation from signals spikes, yet still provides safe, reliable operation on valid high radiation signals.

NMC Form 366A

U.S. NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

APPROVED OME NO. 3150-0104 EXPIRES 4/30/82

TEXT CONTINUATION

Estimated burden per response to comply with this information obligation reducat 50.0 hrs. Forward comments reparding burden estimate to the Records and Reports Management Branch (b-530). U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission. Washington. DC 20565. and to the Paperwork Reduction Project (3:150-0:16). Office of Management and Busget. Washington. DC 20503.

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TEXT (If more space is required, use additional NRC Form 366A s) (17)

Description of Event

This report is being submitted on a recurring problem with the Control Building Inlet Ventilation Radiation Monitors, HVC*RE16A and HVC*RE16B. These monitors are included in the Plant Technical Specification Engineered Safety Features Instrument Block Table 3.3-3. At random times, interference spikes in the instrument loops caused spurious high radiation alarms. Control Building Isolation (CBI) signals for the respective train were generated as a result. These inadvertent actuations are being reported as a single event.

A CBI isolates the Control Room from the outside environment, and after approximately 60 seconds, initiates pressurization by unisolating the Control Room air storage bottles. Even though several dampers reposition, the time delay before bottle discharge is sufficient to allow the operator to recognize that the signal is spurious and reset the CBI before the storage bottles start discharging. Should the storage bottles discharge. Technical Specifications allow continued operation for seven days in accordance with LCO Action 3.8.7.a.1. Operating the Control Room Emergency Air Filtration System in the Recirculation Mode.

II. Cause of Event

Interference sources were investigated by instrumenting portions of the radiation monitor circuitry to trap and identify interference spikes. Once the nature of the interference was understood, the interference spikes were repeated on a test skid which was used to develop and test corrective measures.

The root cause has been identified as both broadcast and conducted electromagnetic interference. Broadcast interference is an electromagnetic signal which enters the signal processing circuitry by propagation through free space (i.e. "radio" interference). Conducted interference is an electrical signal which enters the monitor through wire conductors. In signal processors 3HVC*RIY16A and 3HVC*RIY16B, the interference superimposed on the existing electrical signal representing radiation counts, producing a signal level which momentarily exceeded the high radiation alarm setpoint.

III. Analysis of Event

This report is being submitted in accordance with 10CFR50.73 (a)(2)(iv), as events which resulted in the automatic actuation of an Engineered Safety Feature.

There were no adverse safety implications associated with this problem. By virtue of fail-safe design, the interference resulted in system actuation to the accident configuration.

IV. Corrective action

Corrective action consisted of installing a software change in both radiation monitors which prevents alarm generation from signals spikes, yet still provides safe, reliable operation on valid high radiation signals.

V. Additional Information

This report is being submitted on a recurring problem with the Control Building Inlet Ventilation Radiation Monitors. The inadvertent actuations are being reported as a single event. There have been no similar LERs with the same root cause and sequence of events.

EIIS Codes

Systems Control Building Ventilation System - VI Components Radiation Monitor - MON