

MISAPPLICATION OF CRANE COMPANY 10 INCH 300 POUND

CAST ALLOY STEEL VALVE - CATALOG NUMBER 151 1/2 LU.

A recent unusual event report submitted by a licensee of a PWR plant, supplied by B&W, indicated the failure of valve internals in a valve in the low pressure injection system. This has been the third failure of this nature in a two year period.

A. Description of Circumstances

The low pressure injection system was being operated in the decay heat removal mode when it was noted that flow could not be throttled below 4000 gpm. The system had been in operation for an extended period at flows less than 3000 gpm. Visual inspection of the valve revealed that the guide pin on the base of the valve disc had broken off. Previous failures had been with the disc guide bar and the disc guide pin.

The valve manufacturer advised the licensee that this valve was not intended for regulating service. Operation in a regulating mode causes vibration and/or cavitation and results in failure.

B. Action Requested

Please supply this office, in writing within 30 days after receipt of this bulletin, the following requested information:

1. Are similar valves used in any safeguard system in your facility?
2. Are they used as flow regulating or throttle valves?
3. If the valves are used for flow regulation or as throttle valves,

what action have you taken or do you plan to take to minimize the potential for failure of valve internals?

4. If this bulletin does not apply to your facility, a negative report is requested.