

LICENSEE EVENT REPORT
NARRATIVE REPORT

TMI-2

LER 80-037/01L-0

EVENT DATE - August 8, 1980

I. EXPLANATION OF OCCURRENCE

At 2245 on August 7, 1980, pursuant to Technical Specification 4.6.1.3.a, a leak test was performed on a reactor building personnel airlock (PAL) outer door (PAL #2). Leakage rate exceeded Technical Specification limits and could not be repaired within 24 hours. Therefore, this is a violation of the Action requirement of Technical Specification 3.6.1.3.

II. CAUSE OF THE OCCURRENCE

Due to damage to the outer airlock door in preparation for entry into the Reactor Building Air Lock No. 2, the door failed to seal. It was not possible to complete repair of the seal until 0120 hours on August 9, 1980.

The apparent cause of damage to the door was incomplete following of the procedure for purging of the airlock in that the pressure differential across the door had not been equalized prior to unlatching the door.

The interlock which prevents opening the outer door with a pressure differential across it had been defeated to insure no problems were encountered during the Reactor Building entries because it was similar to the interlock system which delayed the first Reactor Building entry.

The operator visually examined the door for damage and opened and closed it, but found no malfunction.

However, when the leak test was performed, as above, it was concluded that the door had, indeed, been damaged by striking the wall.

III. CIRCUMSTANCES SURROUNDING THE OCCURRENCE

At the time of the occurrence, the Unit 2 facility was in a long-term cold shutdown state. The reactor decay heat was being removed via natural circulation to the "A" steam generator which is operating in a 'steaming' mode. Throughout the event, there was no Loss of Natural Circulation heat removal in the RCS System.

IV. CORRECTIVE ACTIONS TAKEN OR TO BE TAKEN

IMMEDIATE

The immediate action taken was the addition of shims to correct the door's alignment and installation of new seals.

LONG TERM

Long-term actions are two-fold:

- 1) The interlock which prevents the opening of the door with a pressure differential across it has been returned to service, and
- 2) with changing conditions, entries are now made according to Procedure 1630.2, which does not require purging of the PAL.

V. COMPONENT FAILURE DATA

N/A