

3.18.7 FIRE BARRIER PENETRATION SEALS

Applicability: At all times when equipment on either side of barrier is required to be operable.

Objective: To assure the effectiveness of fire barriers.

Specification:

3.18.7.1 All fire barrier penetration seals protecting safety related areas shall be functional.

3.18.7.2 With one or more of the above required fire barrier penetration seals non-functional, establish a fire patrol to inspect at least one side of the affected penetration once per hour during refueling shutdown, cold shutdown, heatup/cooldown, and hot shutdown. At all other times a continuous fire watch shall be posted on one side of the affected penetration within one hour.

Bases: The functional integrity of the fire barrier penetration seals ensures that fires will be confined or adequately retarded from spreading to adjacent portions of the facility. This design feature minimizes the possibility of a single fire rapidly involving several areas of the facility prior to detection and extinguishment. The fire barrier penetration seals are a passive element in the facility fire protection program and are subject to periodic inspections.

During periods of time when the seals are not functional, a fire patrol or a continuous fire watch, as stated in the specification, is required to be maintained in the vicinity of the affected seal until the seal is restored to functional status.