

Attachment to LER-80-043-01T-0
Consumers Power Company
Big Rock Point Plant
Docket 50-155

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Inspections of four stainless steel piping junctions were being done as a result of a previous through wall failure (LER 78-044) and a defect in a pipe junction identified by ultrasonic technique (U.T.) in LER-79-066. The previous failures were attributed to stress corrosion cracking.

Inspection by U.T. during a refueling outage of a branch connection designated 3RCS-101-17-BC revealed a crack-like indication 1/2" long in a 3" diameter stainless steel pipe, radiating from the opening for a 1/2" branch sample line. A section of the 3" line including the branch connection has been replaced to meet current codes and hydro testing is scheduled prior to start-up. The system normally operates at primary system pressure of 1350 psia and could have been isolated by manual valving if needed. No hazard to the public occurred. Reportability is based on Technical Specification 6.9.2.a(3).

Routine periodic non-destructive testing is being considered for this category of branch connections in stainless steel piping.