

OYSTER CREEK NUCLEAR GENERATING STATION
FORKED RIVER, NEW JERSEY 08731

Abnormal Occurrence
Report No. 50-219/74/31

Report Date

May 29, 1974

Occurrence Date

May 19, 1974

Identification of Occurrence

Inoperability of two Bergen-Paterson hydraulic shock and sway arrestors located on Core Spray System II and on Containment Spray System I in the reactor building. This event is considered to be an abnormal occurrence as defined in the Technical Specifications, paragraph 1.15D.

Conditions Prior to Occurrence

The plant was shut down for refueling.

Description of Occurrence

During an inspection of the snubbers in the reactor building, two inoperable units and five leaking units, all Bergen-Paterson Type HSSA-10, were found. The defective snubbers were identified as follows:

<u>Unit</u>	<u>System</u>	<u>Condition</u>	<u>Elevation</u>
477287	Containment Spray I	Inoperable	-19'
469873	Containment Spray II	Leaking	23'
469903	Shutdown Cooling	Leaking	51'
469846	Core Spray II	Leaking	75'
469855	Core Spray II	Inoperable	75'
487465	B Emergency Cond.	Leaking	75'
477170	A Emergency Cond.	Leaking	75'

Apparent Cause of Occurrence

The cause of this occurrence is attributed to seal failure. The inoperability of the snubbers was due to a loss of the hydraulic fluid. The core spray unit had never been rebuilt with ethylene propylene (EP) seals. The containment spray

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unit had been partially rebuilt with EP material following an inspection on February 28, 1974. The particular snubber series involved cannot be fully rebuilt with EP material. Several seals peculiar to the series are no longer fabricated by the snubber manufacturer.

Analysis of Occurrence

The safety significance of this occurrence was a partial loss of the seismic restraining ability for the affected systems. Had the plant suffered a design basis earthquake, the probability that these systems would have suffered structural damage was increased.

Corrective Action

The immediate corrective action was to replace the seven faulty units with units which are equipped with EP seals and have been pressure tested to 4000 psig.

The monthly inspection of all hydraulic snubbers located outside of the primary containment will be adhered to regardless of plant status. Those units which require maintenance and are found to contain other than EP seals will, to the extent possible, be replaced with units having all EP seals. Eventually, any unit which cannot be fully equipped with EP seals will be retired.

The Generation Engineering Department is currently evaluating mechanical snubbers as possible replacements for hydraulic snubbers.

Failure Data

Manufacturer: Bergen-Paterson
Type: HSSA-10