



Description of Event

On October 2, 1980, during Mode 5 operation, the pressurizer power operated relief valves (PORV's) were required to be operable for overpressure protection in accordance with T.S. 3.4.9.3. In this condition, nitrogen is used as the cycling medium for the PORV's. The nitrogen supply pressure dropped to below the pressure necessary to maintain PCV-2456 in an operable status.

Probable Consequences of Event

Overpressure protection for cold shutdown condition is required to prevent pressurization in the non-ductile range of the materials used in the reactor coolant system. Since the nitrogen pressure was restored within seven days as required by T.S. 3.4.9.3, there was no affect on the health and safety of the public.

Cause of Event

The cause of the PORV becoming inoperable was the nitrogen supply tank pressure dropping below the pressure necessary to provide this protection function. The low nitrogen supply in this system was created by excessive usage of nitrogen throughout the station and an inadequate method for replenishing this supply.

Immediate Corrective Action

The nitrogen supply tanks were recharged and the system returned to normal.

Scheduled Corrective Action

The nitrogen supply system has been investigated and recommended corrective actions have been proposed. Future corrective action will be taken based on the review and acceptability of these proposals.

Actions Taken to Prevent Recurrence

No further actions are required.

Generic Implications

There are no generic implications associated with this event.