Event Description and Probable Consequences (continued)

Technical Specification 6.9.1.3.i (Unit 1) and 6.9.1.12.i (Unit 2). The postulated event is as follows:

Assume the plant is operating with a centrifugal charging pump performing the normal charging function. The failure of the VCT level control system (LT-115 or LT-112 failing high) causes the letdown flow to be diverted to the Recycle Holdup Tanks. The VCT liquid inventory is reduced due to normal charging without any makeup to the VCT due to letdown. Assuming LT-115 or LT-112 fails high, charging pump suction is not transferred to the RWST, and without operator intervention the VCT could empty causing the centrifugal charging pump to be damaged due to loss of suction fluid. The second centrifugal charging pump is then taken to be the assumed active failure. The RCS inventory decreases due to normal letdown flow and following letdown isolation, due to RCP seal leakage. However, borated water cannot be injected into the RCS from the centrifugal charging pumps. The operator must find a means to restore the primary inventory lost via letdown and RCP seal leakage. In addition, the operator must be capable of borating the RCS prior to going to a cold shutdown condition.

This scenario assumes that during normal plant operation, one charging pump is running with another on standby. Actually, three charging pumps exist, although the Technical Specifications require only two.

Following the failure in the VCT level control system, the operator would have approximately 10 minutes to transfer the charging pump suction from the VCT to the RWST, simply stop the pump, or restore letdown to the VCT.

If no operator action occurs at this time, then the pump in operation could be damaged due to loss of suction, and the plant would continue to lose inventory due to letdown. However, this is a slow loss in water inventory. Automatic letdown isolation should occur. Even without letdown isolation or operator intervention, approximately two days would elapse prior to core uncovery. The operator would have considerable time to align the standby pump to the RWST.

The health and safety of the public were not affected by this event. (Note: This LER is applicable to both Units 1 and 2 of FNP).

Cause Description and Corrective Actions (continued)

this situation and would take the appropriate action necessary to assure an adequate water supply to the charging pumps.