

Update Report - Previous Report Date 11/19/80

Attachment to LER 80-034-01X-1
Consumers Power Company
Big Rock Point Plant
Docket 80-155

The plant was in the process of shutting down in preparation for a planned outage when the operator noted failure of the Main Steam Isolation Valve MO7050 to close following initiation from the main control room. The closing torque switch interrupted the circuit and it was reset by opening the valve from the main control room. The valve was subsequently closed a few minutes later. Primary system pressure was about 150 psig and no other operating problem resulted. Back-up valves in each downstream branch of the main steam system are designed to close automatically on other parameters.

Subsequent investigation revealed graphite packing material build-up on the valve stem impeding valve travel. Other packing material and/or packing techniques were evaluated for the high temperature application. Based on testing performed by another valve vendor and experience reports from other industry sources a new packing technique was employed during repairs prior to plant start-up in February of 1981 following a refueling outage. Preformed graphite packing rings alternated with braided packing rings were utilized to provide better self-cleaning characteristics. This is expected to provide improved performance of this valve in the future.

Reportability is based on Technical Specification 6.9.2a(5).