

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION FOR LICENSEE EVENT REPORT 81-004, R-1

1. Cause Description and Analysis

On 1-16-81 at 1228 hours, the combination of a volume control tank makeup signal, an increasing component cooling water (CCW) surge tank level and an increasing radiation reading from the CCW System radiation monitor alerted the operators to the possibility of a Primary Coolant System leak. A RCS leak test was initiated and, at 1244 hours, RCS leakage was verified and determined to be 2.37 gpm. At 1245 hours the pressurizer liquid sample line isolation valves, which are normally opened during day shift operations for sampling, were promptly closed. A second RCS leak test was performed and, at 1300 hours, the RCS leak rate was determined to be essentially zero. No further increase in CCW surge tank level or CCW radiation monitor readings occurred following the closure of the sample line isolation valves. The leak path was subsequently identified as being from the pressurizer liquid space through the sample line into the sample cooler and into the CCW System via a leaking tube bundle in the cooler. The leakage experienced was in excess of the limits allowed by Technical Specification Section 3.1.5.2 and is reportable in accordance with Technical Specification 6.9.2.b(2).

The cause of the event was the sample cooler tube bundle leakage. The tube bundle leakage is attributed to normal wear.

Since the RCS leakage was totally contained within the CCW System, which is a closed radioactive system, there was no threat to either the plant or to the public health or safety.

2. Corrective Action

The sample line isolation valves were closed to eliminate further leakage as immediate corrective action.

3. Corrective Action to Prevent Further Occurrence

The sample cooler tube bundle was removed and replaced. A review of maintenance records on this and other similar sample coolers was performed to determine if any generic problems could be identified which would indicate a need for further corrective action. This review revealed that all sample coolers have operated in a reliable manner and no generic problems were identified Specifically, since the beginning of operation, only three cooler tube bundle f ilures have occurred for six sample coolers (i.e., three separate failures in approximately 60 tube bundle years of operation) and no cooler tube bundles have failed more than once.

Therefore, the sample cooler operation is considered to be sufficiently reliable and no further corrective action is deemed necessary.