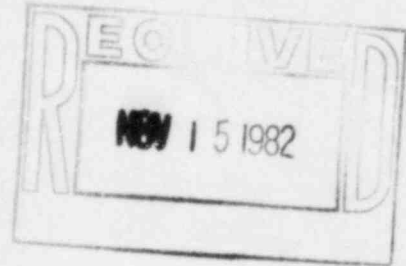




Public Service Company of Colorado

16805 Road 19 1/2, Platteville, Colorado 80651-9298

November 10, 1982  
Fort St. Vrain  
Unit No. 1  
P-82515



Mr. John T. Collins, Regional Administrator  
Region IV  
Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
611 Ryan Plaza Drive  
Suite 1000  
Arlington, Texas 76011

Reference: Facility Operating License  
No. DPR-34

Docket No. 50-267

Dear Mr. Collins:

Enclosed please find a copy of Reportable Occurrence Report No. 50-267/82-042, Final, submitted per the requirements of Technical Specification AC 7.5.2(b)4.

Also, please find enclosed one copy of the Licensee Event Report for Reportable Occurrence Report No. 50-267/82-042.

Very truly yours,

*Don Warembourg*  
Don Warembourg  
Manager, Nuclear Production

DW/cis

Enclosure

cc: Director, MIPC

IE-22

REPORT DATE: November 10, 1982

REPORTABLE OCCURRENCE 82-042  
ISSUE 0

OCCURRENCE DATE: October 13, 1982

Page 1 of 4

FORT ST. VRAIN NUCLEAR GENERATING STATION  
PUBLIC SERVICE COMPANY OF COLORADO  
16805 WELD COUNTY ROAD 19 1/2  
PLATTEVILLE, COLORADO 80651-9298

REPORT NO. 50-267/82-042/03-L-0

Final

IDENTIFICATION OF  
OCCURRENCE:

On October 13, 1982, with the reactor shutdown, an unsampled, unplanned, radioactive gaseous release to the atmosphere took place. The source of the gaseous effluent was a leak within the Reactor Building which was exhausted to the atmosphere via the filtered ventilation exhaust stack. The release to the atmosphere was less than maximum permissible concentration. This event constitutes a degraded mode of LCO 4.8.1, and is being reported per AC 7.5.2(b)4 of the Fort St. Vrain Technical Specifications.

EVENT  
DESCRIPTION:

On October 13, 1982, the reactor was shutdown and depressurized for various core maintenance activities. One of these activities was the removal and repair of HV-2301 (helium purification train "A" inlet valve). Upon removal of the valve, blank flanges were installed on both the upstream (PCR) and downstream (purification train) sections of remaining pipe. These flanges were installed utilizing standard conical type seals.

At 0555 hours, a high airborne activity monitor alarmed in the Reactor Building. The building was evacuated per station emergency procedures. The high airborne activity in the Reactor Building was exhausted to the atmosphere via the monitored and filtered ventilation exhaust stack. The exhaust stack radiation monitors (RIS-7324-1 and RIS-7324-2) showed a slight increase, but levels never exceeded maximum permissible concentrations. The total release was calculated to contain 0.78 curies of noble gas (primarily Xenon-133).

Upon investigation of the source of airborne gaseous activity, it was found that the blank flange (on the purification side of where HV-2301 was removed) had a leaking seal (See Figure 1). The source of activity was the helium being used to regenerate that purification train's dryer. During dryer regeneration, that particular flange was subjected to approximately 88 psig pressure.

CAUSE  
DESCRIPTION:

The seal between a blank flange and the purification train "A", where HV-2301 was removed, failed. This failure allowed helium being used to regenerate the train's dryer to escape to the Reactor Building. The associated activity was then exhausted via the filtered Reactor Building exhaust stack to the atmosphere.

CORRECTIVE  
ACTION:

Upon receiving the high airborne activity within the Reactor Building, the building was evacuated per Emergency Procedures.

Emergency Procedures were initiated to determine the extent and contents of the atmospheric release. The unplanned release constituted an "Unusual Event," and proper notification was made to Federal and State authorities.

Regeneration of the purification train "A" dryer was stopped.

When accessible, a new seal was installed on the blank flange which was found to be leaking. The associated secondary cover was replaced on the well where HV-2301 is normally located, until the valve could be re-installed in the system.

No further corrective action is anticipated or required.

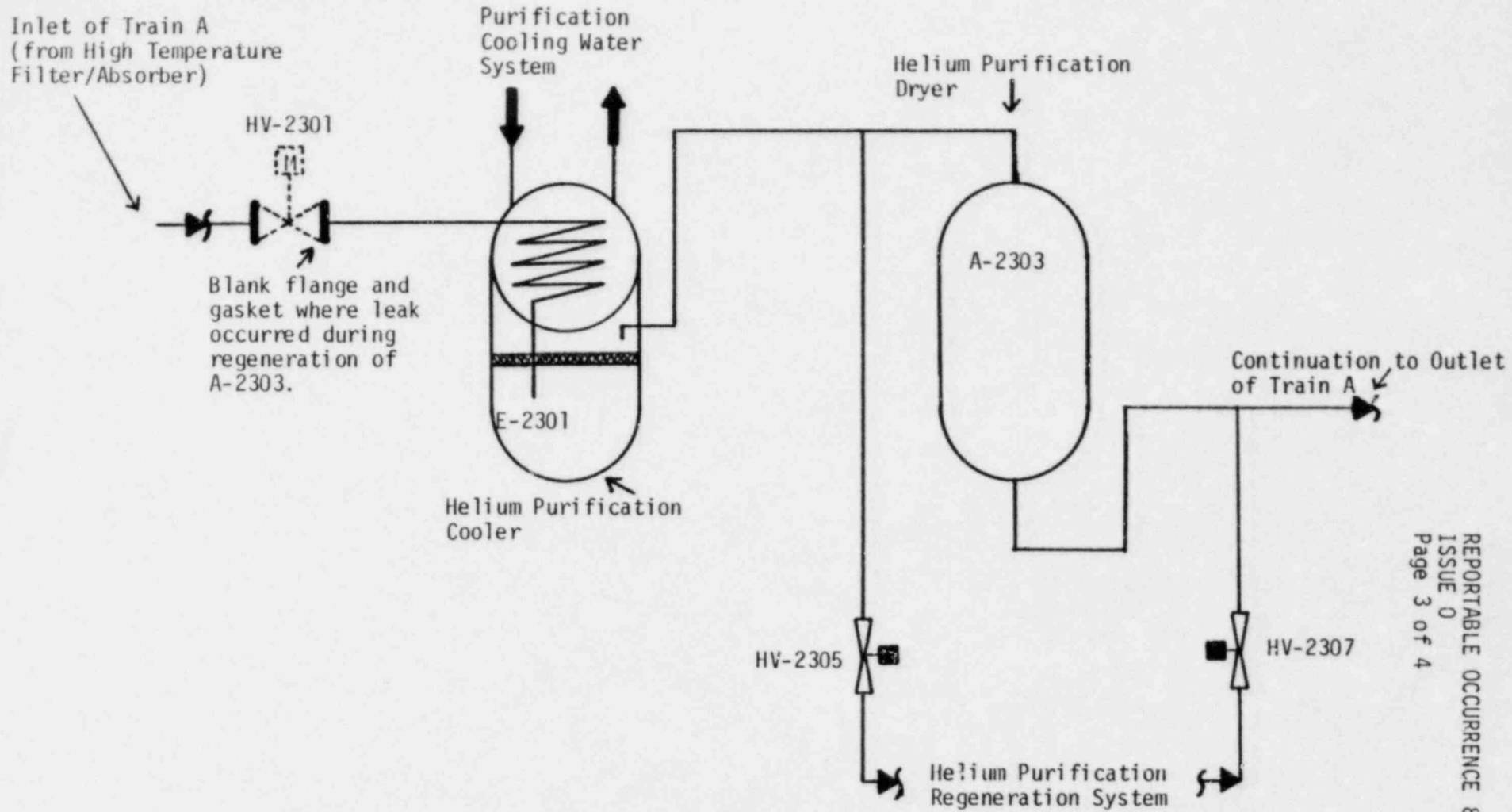


Figure 1: Simplified Section of Helium Purification System  
-Train A-

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Don Warembourg  
Manager, Nuclear Production