

U. S. NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
OFFICE OF INSPECTION AND ENFORCEMENT
REGION IV

Report No. 50-267/78-18
Licensee: Public Service Company of Colorado
(PSCO)
Ft. St. Vrain Nuclear Station
Location: Platteville, Colorado
Inspection Conducted: November 6 and 7, 1978

Docket No. 50-267

License No. DPR-34

Category B

Inspectors: Blaine Murray 11/22/78
Blaine Murray, Radiation Specialist Date

for Blaine Murray 11/22/78
H. C. Harrison, Radiation Specialist Date

Approved by: Blaine Murray 11/23/78
for Glen D. Brown, Chief, Fuel Facility and Date
Material Safety Branch

Inspection Summary

Inspection on November 6 and 7, 1978 (Report No. 50-267/78-18)

Areas Inspected: Routine, announced inspection of the licensee's Emergency Planning Program including coordination with off-site support agencies; facilities, equipment, and procedures; tests and drills; licensee audits; and emergency training. The inspectors observed an emergency drill on November 7, 1978. The inspection involved 32 on-site hours by two NRC inspectors.

Results: No items of noncompliance or deviations were identified. Several problems were observed during the November 7, 1978, drill. See paragraph 8.

781229 0244

DETAILS

1. Persons Contacted

a. PSCo

- *D. R. Alexander, Health Physics Supervisor
- *H. L. Brey, QA Manager
- J. Gahm, Technical Services Supervisor
- H. W. Hillyard, Administrative Services Supervisor
- F. Mathie, Operations Superintendent
- T. E. Schleiger, Health Physicist
- *C. R. Tracy, Superintendent of Operations QA
- R. Wadas, Training Coordinator

*Denotes those present during exit interview.

b. Off-Site Agencies

- J. Montgomery, Colorado Health Department
- K. Cogburn, Dispatcher, Weld County Communications Center
- T. D. Urista, Weld County Sheriff Department
- W. S. Martin, Colorado Division of Disaster Emergency Services
- Lt. J. B. Bell, Colorado State Patrol (Greely)
- G. Guarino, M.D., St. Luke's Hospital

2. Scope of Inspection

This inspection involved a review of the licensee's Emergency Planning Program for the period January 1, 1978, through October 15, 1978.

3. Coordinator with Off-Site Support Agencies

The inspectors contacted the off-site support agencies identified in paragraph 1.b to determine if the licensee had established contact with these agencies during the past year. Through discussions with the licensee and representatives of the various off-site agencies, it was determined that the licensee was in contact with the support agencies during the past year. However, the licensee did not always maintain records of topics discussed during the meetings with the agencies. Problems with maintaining records of meeting with off-site agencies was previously discussed in IE Inspection Report 50-267/78-02. A licensee representative stated that written records will be maintained regarding future meetings with off-site agencies.

No items of noncompliance or deviations were noted.

4. Facilities, Equipment, and Procedures

a. Emergency Kit Inventory

The inspectors examined the inventory of supplies, equipment, and procedures maintained in the emergency kits located in the Administration Building and the Primary Emergency Control Center. Procedure HPP-37 contains a list of items to be maintained in the emergency kits. It was noted that the licensee does not maintain a portable sampler to allow the collection and analysis of ^{131}I samples. See paragraph 9.b.

b. Facilities

The inspectors visited the Primary Emergency Control Center (Visitor's Center) and the Alternate Control Centers (site warehouse and QA Building) to determine if the facilities are maintained as described in the emergency procedures.

No items of noncompliance or deviations were noted.

c. Calibration and Maintenance of Emergency Equipment

The inspectors examined procedures and schedules established by the licensee for calibration, maintenance, and inspection of emergency equipment. This included a review of portable survey meters, counting instruments, and air samplers; effluent monitors; and meteorological instruments. The inspector found that emergency equipment is maintained in such a manner to allow adequate response in the event the equipment is needed.

No items of noncompliance or deviations were noted.

5. Emergency Plan and Implementing Procedures

The inspectors examined the licensee's program for reviewing and approving changes made to the Emergency Plan and associated implementing procedures. Several questions regarding the format and content of the Emergency Plan were discussed in IE Inspection Report 50-267/78-02. As a result of the questions raised in above inspection report, the NRC Licensing staff was requested to review the Emergency Plan. The requested review has not been completed. It was noted that changes made to the implementing procedures since the previous inspection had been properly reviewed and approved.

No items of noncompliance or deviations were noted.

6. Emergency Training

The inspectors reviewed the licensee's training program for PSCo personnel and off-site agencies. Training records indicate that emergency training for PSCo and contract personnel was performed as specified in the Training Manual. Training was also conducted for members of the Platteville Fire Department and Rescue Squad during 1978. The licensee's records did not indicate that formal training was conducted with other Off-Site agencies. The Emergency Plan does not specify that PSCo is responsible for conducting training sessions with off-site agencies. However, a licensee representative stated that off-site agencies will be invited to participate in future training sessions.

No items of noncompliance or deviations were identified.

7. Audits

The inspectors reviewed audits performed by the licensee to determine compliance with Technical Specification AC 7.1.3.g.2.(e). The licensee's records indicated that the Nuclear Facility Safety Committee (NFSC) performed an audit of emergency procedures in June, 1977. The plant QA staff audited the emergency response program in January 1978.

No items of noncompliance or deviations were noted.

8. Test and Drills

The inspectors examined records of radiological tests and drills conducted since the previous emergency planning inspection. An incident occurred at the plant on January 23, 1978, involving a gaseous release which required that the licensee's emergency plan be activated. No radiological tests or drills have been held since the January 23, incident.

A "General Emergency" type drill was conducted during this inspection on November 7, 1978. The scenario for the November 7, drill involved a rupture of the regeneration compressor during generation resulting in radioactive gas being released into the unrestricted area via the plant ventilation system. The drill also included transporting a contaminated accident victim from the plant to St. Luke's Hospital in Denver for treatment. Readings were posted on various plant monitors to indicate a release of radioactivity from the plant to result in a dose greater than 5000 times MPC at the exclusion area boundary (Category III). The drill was initiated at 08:50 hours and terminated at 10:05 hours.

Two NRC inspectors and five PSCo personnel observed the drill. One NRC inspector observed activities in the control room and emergency control center. The other inspector accompanied the accident victim to the hospital. A critique involving the drill observers was held after termination of drill on November 7, 1978.

The NRC inspector remaining at the plant was present in the control room between 08:45 until about 09:40 at which time the inspector visited the Emergency Control Center. The inspector noted the following items:

- a. Calculations of Off-Site Releases: Operations personnel in the control room did not appear to be thoroughly familiar with the procedures used to calculate the off-site dose. It was not until the Health Physic Foreman visited the control room and assisted in the calculations that dose evaluations were completed.
- b. Emergency Control Center: Activities at the Emergency Control Center were in a state of confusion when the inspector arrived at about 09:50. The inspector observed the following:
 - (1) A survey area had been established for non-essential personnel exiting the plant. After survey procedures were completed, the non-essential personnel were allowed to congregate in the same area the Emergency Controller was attempting to perform his designated duties. The interference caused by persons not involved with emergency responsibilities made it essentially impossible for the Controller to properly manage activities at the Emergency Control Center.
 - (2) Survey teams were not sent out to survey or collect on-site or off-site samples.
 - (3) Off-site dose calculations were completed by control room personnel at about 09:30; however, the Emergency Controller stated that he did not receive this information until 09:50.
 - (4) The Emergency Control Center area was not surveyed prior to designating the area as an acceptable operating center.
 - (5) The drill was terminated (10:05) before the Emergency Control Center had completed their required telephone notifications.

c. Off-Site Notification

The licensee completed their off-site dose evaluation at about 09:30 and immediately initiated calls to the Weld County Communications Center and the PSCO operator. A representative of the Weld County Communication Center stated that they were unable to establish contact with the Colorado Division of Emergency Services. As a result, the Colorado Health Department did not receive notification until about 10:30.

9. Exit Interview

At the conclusion of the inspection on November 7, 1978, the inspection findings were discussed with the PSCO personnel denoted in paragraph 1.b. The inspectors summarized the purpose and scope of the inspection. The following items were discussed in detail:

- a. The inspectors stated that the management of drill activities at the Emergency Control Center was not conducted in an acceptable manner. The inspectors stated that the licensee's action will be reviewed during future inspections to determine compliance with Sections 4.1.2.3 and 4.1.2.3.3 of the Training Manual.

Section 4.1.2.3 states the licensee is responsible for:
"Reviewing the performance of on-site emergency drills and taking appropriate action if unsatisfactory performance is needed."

Section 4.1.2.3.3 states the licensee is responsible for:
"Critiquing emergency team performance at the conclusion of each drill, including recommendations for upgrading of individuals who have demonstrated unsatisfactory performance during the drills."

- b. A licensee representative stated that a portable ^{131}I sampler will be obtained.
- c. The First Aid treatment area and decontamination facilities continue to be located in the same room. A licensee representative stated that space is not presently available to permit separate locations.