



SACRAMENTO MUNICIPAL UTILITY DISTRICT □ 6201 S Street, Box 15830, Sacramento, California 95813; (916) 452-3211

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December 29, 1982

R H ENGELKEN, REGIONAL ADMINISTRATOR
REGION V OFFICE OF INSPECTION AND ENFORCEMENT
U S NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
1450 MARIA LANE SUITE 210
WALNUT CREEK CA 94596

DOCKET NO. 50-312
LICENSE NO. DPR-54
LICENSEE EVENT REPORT NUMBER 82-27 FOLLOW-UP

In accordance with Rancho Seco Nuclear Generating Station Technical Specifications, section 6.9.4.2.d and Regulatory Guide 1.16, section C.2.b.4, the Sacramento Municipal Utility District hereby submits a follow-up report to Licensee Event Report Number 82-27.

On October 12, 1982, the weekly Nitrogen System surveillance showed Xenon-133 activity in the Auxiliary Building Nitrogen header. Activities measured at the sample point through a valve NGS 526 were Xe-133 at 4.49 E-2 μ ci/ml, K-85M at 1.04 E-3, X-133M at 3.76 E-3, and Xe-135 at 2.26 E-2. The system was subsequently flushed and activity was reduced to below detectable levels.

On September 9, 1982, a similar situation was observed and reported under LER 82-23. The Plant Review Committee met and designated a special engineering subcommittee to determine the source of this repeated low-level contamination. A program was developed that allowed the source to be identified. The results were as follows.

The observed contamination in the Auxiliary Building Nitrogen Header was found to be leakage into the Nitrogen System from the Make-up Tank. This leakage should have been prevented by a check valve, PLS-084, and a stop valve NGS-023. Experimentation involving lowering the Make-up Tank pressure and purging the Nitrogen Header followed by sampling the Nitrogen Header, and then repressurization of the Make-up Tank showed that the Nitrogen Header contamination was dependant upon Make-up Tank pressure being above Nitrogen Header pressure.

The pressure gauge used to monitor Nitrogen supply pressure to the low pressure Nitrogen system was found to be incorrect. This resulted in the Nitrogen supply pressure being maintained at approximately 30 psig.

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This is below the normal maximum Make-up Tank pressure of 40 psig. The pressure gauge was replaced with a calibrated gauge and this gauge will be placed on a periodic calibration schedule.

The two valves described above, PLS-084 and NGS-023, were repaired during a recent plant shutdown.

Subsequent samples of the Nitrogen Header have shown less than minimum detectable amounts of radioactive gas contamination.

In addition, District Engineering personnel assigned to Engineering and Quality Control will continue to investigate the overall problem of contamination of low pressure gas systems.

There were no effects on public or plant safety resulting from this event.



William Hammond
Acting General Manager