

PLANT SYSTEMS

BASES

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3/4.7.7 PENETRATION FIRE BARRIERS

The functional integrity of the penetration fire barriers ensures that fires will be confined or adequately retarded from spreading to adjacent portions of the facility. This design feature minimizes the possibility of a single fire rapidly involving several areas of the facility prior to detection and extinguishment. The penetration fire barriers are a passive element in the facility fire protection program and are subject to periodic inspections.

During periods of time when the barriers are not functional, a continuous fire watch is required to be maintained in the vicinity of the affected barrier until the barrier is restored to functional status unless the OPERABILITY of the fire detection instruments, providing coverage of the fire detection zones on each side of the non-functional barriers, has been demonstrated.