

November 26, 1990

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U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission Document Control Desk Mail Station P1-137 Washington, D. C. 20555

SUBJECT: Arkansas Nuclear One - Unit 1

Docket No. 50-313 License No. DPR-51

Licensee Event Report No. 50-313/90-015-00

Fisicaro by Rgx

Gentlemen:

In accordance with 10CFR50.73(a)(2)(i), attached is the subject report concerning the commencement of irradiated fuel handling operations with greater than the Technical Specifications allowed total run time on the Spent Fuel Ventilation System since its last surveillance due to inadequate procedural controls.

Very truly yours,

James J. Fisicaro

Manager, Licensing

JJF/RHS/mmg Attachment

cc:

Regional Administrator

Region IV

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Approved OMB No. 3150-0104

Expires: 4/30/92

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ABSTRACT (Limit to 1400 spaces, i.e., approximately fifteen single-space typewritten lines) (16)

SUPPLEMENT REPORT EXPECTED (14)

On October 26, 1990, at approximately 1010, it was identified by Operations personnel that the total operating hours since the last surveillance of the Spent Fuel Ventilation System had been greater than 720 hours at the time refueling operations were begun. This is in conflict with the ANO-1 Technical Specifications which requires that specific tests and analyses be performed within 720 system operating hours prior to irradiated fuel handling operations. All fuel handling operations were halted when this condition was identified. Surveillance of the Spent Fuel Ventilation System was satisfactorily performed on October 26, 1990. Presently, procedure requires the operators to record only the current run time numbers for the ventilation systems and forward them to Engineering Programs for total run time calculations and surveillance scheduling. Therefore, the root cause of this event was intermined to be an inadequate procedure to ensure that Technical Specifications related ventilation system surveillances are performed at their required frequencies. The applicable procedure is being revised to require Operations to perform the total run time calculations and to ensure that Engineering Programs is given sufficient no ice to schedule and perform surveillances.

U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission Approved OMB No. 3150-0104 Expires: 4/30/92

LICENSEE EVENT REPORT (LER) TEXT CONTINUATION

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A. Plant Status

At the time of this event, Arkansas Nuclear One, Unit One (ANO-1) was in the refueling shutdown condition. Refueling outage 1R9 was in progress.

B. Event Description

On October 26, 1990, at approximately 1010, Operations personnel identified that a violation of the ANO-1 Technical Specifications had occurred. Irradiated fuel handling operations had begun with greater than 720 operating hours on the Spent Fuel Ventilation System [VG] since its last surveillance. This is in conflict with ANO-1 Technical Specification 4.17.3, which states that specific tests and sample analysis shall be performed within 720 system operating hours prior to irradiated fuel handling operations in the auxiliary building.

On October 16, 1990, the prerequisites of the Refueling Shuffle" procedure (1502.004) were begun in preparation for refueling operations. In accordance with the procedure, Operations personnel contacted Engineering Programs to get the Spent Fuel Ventilation System operating hours at the time of the last surveillance to verify that the system met the total operating hours requirements of Technical Specification 4.17.3. At the time of this verification, the system was in service and had less than 700 total operating hours since its last surveillance. However, due to refueling equipment problems, the prerequisites were not completed until October 21, at which time fuel handling activities were begun.

On October 26, 1990, it was identified by Operations personnel that the total operating hours since the last surveillance of the Spent Fuel Ventilation System had been greater than 720 hours (approximately 785 hours) at the time fuel movement was begun. All fuel movement was immediately halted when this condition was identified. Surveillance of the Spent Fuel Ventilation System was satisfactorily performed on October 26, 1990 in accordance with the "In-Place testing of Ventilation S; tems Containing HEPA and Carbon Filters" procedure (1092.081).

C. Root Cause

The "Interrogation of Tech. Spec. Surv. Limit, Safety-Related Ventilation Systems" procedure (1092.080) is performed weekly by Operations personnel to ensure that the applicable ventilation systems remain within the limit of 720 hours between tests. Presently, procedure 1092.080 requires the operators to record only the current run time numbers for each unit and forward the forms to Engineering Programs personnel, who then calculate the total run times for each unit since its last surveillance and schedule tests, as required. However, due to the inherent delays in the processing of completed surveillances, the

U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission Approved CMB No. 3150-0104 Expires: :/30/92

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previous two weekly serveillances were not received by Engineering Programs until October 26. If this information had been received expeditiously, Engineering Programs would have scheduled the required surveillance. Additionally, Engineering Programs personnel were not aware that the Spent Fuel Ventilation System had been run continuously since its last surveillance test. Considering the above, it was concluded that the root cause of this event was an inadequate procedure to ensure that the Technical Specifications related ventilation system tests and analyses are performed at their required frequencies.

D. Corrective Actions

As previously stated, all fuel movement was immediately halted when this condition was discovered. The ventilation system was successfully tested in accordance with the "In-Place Testing of Ventilation Systems Containing HEPA and Carbon Filters" procedure (1092.081) On October 26, 1990.

In order to prevent recurrence of similar events, procedure 1092.080 is being revised to require Operations to perform the total run time calculations and to ensure that Engineering Programs is given sufficient notice to schedule and perform ventilation system surveillances within the required operating time limits. The procedure will also require Engineering Programs to notify Operations of the equipment run time at the time surveillances are performed. This revision is expected to be completed by December 7, 1990.

Procedure 1092.080 also includes run time data collection and evaluation for other Technical Specifications related ventilation systems of ANO-1 and ANO-2. Therefore, this revision should also ensure that tests and analyses for these systems are completed when required.

E. Safety Significance

This event is not considered to be safety significant since subsequent testing of the Spent Fuel Ventilation System verified that it had remained operable during fuel handling operations.

F. Basis For Reportability

Since irradiated fuel handling operations were begun with greater than 720 operating nours on the Spent Fuel Ventilation System since its last surveillance, which is in conflict with Technical Specification 4.17.3, this condition is reportable pursuant to 10CFR50.73(a)(2)(i)(B) as operation prohibited by Technical Specifications.

U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission Approved OMB No. 3150-0114

Expires: 4/30/52

LICENSEE EVENT REPORT (LER) TEXT CONTINUATION

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G. Additional Information

There have been no previous similar events reported in which irradiated fuel handling was begun without performing required prerequisite surveillance.

Energy Industry Identification System (EIIS) codes are identified in the text as [XX].