

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION

FOR

LICENSEE EVENT REPORT 82-12

I. Cause Description and Analysis

On September 6, 1982 at 1635 hours, with the unit at 94% power, valve CVC-203 (Letdown Relief Valve) lifted and would not reseal.

Prior to the occurrence, two charging pumps were operating; one supplying makeup to the Reactor Coolant System and the other on recirculation. When realigning the recirculating charging pump to normal line-up, the pump discharge valve was inappropriately opened first. This allowed the charging flow from the normally operating charging pump to flow through the recirculation line of the charging pump being aligned resulting in loss of cooling to the Regenerative Heat Exchanger. The letdown fluid then heated up and, due to the pressure drop across the letdown orifices, the fluid flashed to steam.

When the charging pump recirculation line was isolated and charging flow was returned to the Regenerative Heat Exchanger, cooling of the letdown fluid returned to normal. However, this cooled letdown fluid in conjunction with the steam in the line resulted in water hammer and caused CVC-203 to chatter. The valve bellows were damaged due to the valve chatter and CVC-203 would not reseal. The resulting primary system leakage was determined to be approximately 9 GPM based on the level increase in the Pressurizer Relief Tank.

This event resulted in an identified primary system leak in excess of 1 GPM as defined by Technical Specification 3.1.5.1 and is reported pursuant to 6.9.2.b.2. The leakage was routed to the Pressurizer Relief Tank via the relief line with only slight leakage to the Containment Vessel from the valve bellows. Thus, there was no threat to the public health and safety.

II. Corrective Action

Upon discovery of the valve alignment error, the charging pump recirculation line was isolated and charging flow was returned to normal operation. Due to leakage past the Letdown Isolation Valves (CVC-460A and B) and Letdown Orifice Isolation Valves (CVC-200A, B and C), the plant was placed in hot shutdown condition at 0413 hours on September 7, 1982 to manually isolate CVC-203 for repairs. CVC-203 was disassembled, the seating surfaces were lapped, and the bellows with associated gaskets were replaced. The reassembled CVC-203 was then adjusted and tested for the proper relief pressure setting, and re-installed in satisfactory operating condition.

III. Corrective Action to Prevent Recurrence

The failure of CVC-203 was the result of water hammer which was caused by operator error in the realignment of a charging pump from recirculation to normal operation. Those personnel involved have been counselled on the proper operation of the charging pumps with respect to the effect on other plant systems. Additionally, prior to this event, the reliability of CVC-203 was questioned (IER-82-20) and efforts toward resolution are continuing. Any significant actions resulting from this investigation will be reported as a supplement to this report. The Letdown Isolation Valves (CVC-460A and B) and Letdown Orifice Isolation Valves (CVC-200A, B and C) will be examined and repaired as necessary during the next refueling outage.