

YANKEE ATOMIC ELECTRIC COMPANY

Telephone (413) 424-5261



Star Route, Rowe, Massachusetts 01367

January 25, 1991
BYR 91-009

U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Document Control Desk
Washington, DC 20555

Subject: Special Report:

Number 2 Main Steam Line Monitor Inoperable for Greater Than Seven Days

Dear Sir:

In accordance with Technical Specification 3.3.3.1 Table 3.3-4 Action Statement 15 the attached 14 day Special Report outlining the action taken, the cause of the inoperability and the plans and schedule for restoring the instrument to operable status is hereby submitted.

Very truly yours,

Normand N. St. Laurent
Plant Superintendent

ELM\elm
Enclosure:

cc: [3] NSARC Chairman (YAEC)
[1] Institute of Nuclear Power Operations (INPO)
[1] USNRC, Region I
[1] Resident Inspector

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BACKGROUND

At 1405 hours, on January 4, 1991, No. 2 Main Steam Line Area Radiation Monitor was declared inoperable due to a high source check reading. This condition was found during performance of a routine surveillance conducted by Radiation Protection Department personnel in accordance with plant procedure OP-4816, "Functional Test and Alarm Settings of the Area Radiation Monitoring System". Maintenance Request (MR) 91-0029 was initiated.

ACTION TAKEN

Troubleshooting of the inoperable channel was initiated by Instrument and Controls Department personnel. Detector/pre-amp cables and connectors were replaced. The detector and pre-amp high and low circuit boards were rebuilt. The channel was recalibrated using OP-4669 Attachment B, "Calibration of Model 845 Series Main Steam Line or Primary Vent Stack Area Radiation Monitoring Channel".

During the time the channel was inoperable any necessary manual measurements to compensate for the loss of remote instrumentation were available as outlined in plant procedure OP-8741, "Determination of Noble Gas Release Rates from the Main Steam Lines with the Victoreen Channels Inoperable".

CAUSE OF THE INOPERABILITY

The root cause of the inoperability was attributed to component deterioration resulting from environmental conditions. The monitor is mounted in an area that is subject to temperature and humidity fluctuations. The main steam line area monitors' installation including environmental conditions and performance remain under evaluation as part of the normal surveillance and maintenance program.

SCHEDULE FOR RESTORATION

The No. 2 Main Steam Line Area Radiation Monitor was returned to service at 1540 hours, on January 18, 1991, during the report preparation period.