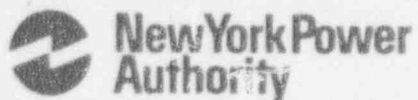


James A. FitzPatrick
Nuclear Power Plant
P.O. Box 41
Lycoming, New York 13093
315 342-3840



Harry P. Salmon, Jr.
Resident Manager

June 15, 1994
JAFF-94-0309

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

SUBJECT: DOCKET NO. 50-333
LICENSEE EVENT REPORT: LER-94-003:

Incomplete Periodic Testing Due to Personnel Error

Dear Sir:

This report is submitted in accordance with 10CFR50.73(a)(2)(i).

Questions concerning this report may be addressed to
Mr. Donald Simpson at (315) 349-6361.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'Harry P. Salmon, Jr.'.

HARRY P. SALMON, JR.

HPS:EPS:tlc

Enclosure

cc: USNRC, Region I
USNRC Resident Inspector
INPO Records Center

9406240159 940615
PDR ADOCK 05000333
S PDR

cert # 2749685721

IE22

LICENSEE EVENT REPORT (LER)

(See reverse for required number of digits/characters for each block)

ESTIMATED BURDEN PER RESPONSE TO COMPLY WITH THIS INFORMATION COLLECTION REQUEST: 50.0 HRS. FORWARD COMMENTS REGARDING BURDEN ESTIMATE TO THE INFORMATION AND RECORDS MANAGEMENT BRANCH (MNB 7714), U.S. NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION, WASHINGTON, DC 20555-0001, AND TO THE PAPERWORK REDUCTION PROJECT (3150-0104), OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET, WASHINGTON, DC 20503.

FACILITY NAME (1)
James A. FitzPatrick Nuclear Power Plant

DOCKET NUMBER (2)
05000333

PAGE (3)
01 OF 03

TITLE (4)
Incomplete Periodic Testing Due to Personnel Error

EVENT DATE (5)			LER NUMBER (6)			REPORT DATE (7)			OTHER FACILITIES INVOLVED (8)	
MONTH	DAY	YEAR	YEAR	SEQUENTIAL NUMBER	REVISION NUMBER	MONTH	DAY	YEAR	FACILITY NAME	DOCKET NUMBER
05	18	94	94	003	00	06	15	94	FACILITY NAME	DOCKET NUMBER 05000
									FACILITY NAME	DOCKET NUMBER 05000

OPERATING MODE (9) N	THIS REPORT IS SUBMITTED PURSUANT TO THE REQUIREMENTS OF 10 CFR §: (Check one or more) (11)									
POWER LEVEL (10) 100	<input type="checkbox"/> 20.402(b)	<input type="checkbox"/> 20.405(c)	<input type="checkbox"/> 50.73(a)(2)(iv)	<input type="checkbox"/> 73.71(b)						
	<input type="checkbox"/> 20.405(a)(1)(i)	<input type="checkbox"/> 50.36(c)(1)	<input type="checkbox"/> 50.73(a)(2)(v)	<input type="checkbox"/> 73.71(c)						
	<input type="checkbox"/> 20.405(a)(1)(ii)	<input type="checkbox"/> 50.36(c)(2)	<input type="checkbox"/> 50.73(a)(2)(vii)	OTHER						
	<input type="checkbox"/> 20.405(a)(1)(iii)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 50.73(a)(2)(i)	<input type="checkbox"/> 50.73(a)(2)(viii)(A)	(Specify in Abstract below and in Text, NRC Form 366A)						
	<input type="checkbox"/> 20.405(a)(1)(iv)	<input type="checkbox"/> 50.73(a)(2)(ii)	<input type="checkbox"/> 50.73(a)(2)(viii)(B)							
<input type="checkbox"/> 20.405(a)(1)(v)	<input type="checkbox"/> 50.73(a)(2)(iii)	<input type="checkbox"/> 50.73(a)(2)(x)								

LICENSEE CONTACT FOR THIS LER (12)

NAME
Mr. Donald Simpson, Senior Licensing Engineer

TELEPHONE NUMBER (Include Area Code)
(315) 349-6361

COMPLETE ONE LINE FOR EACH COMPONENT FAILURE DESCRIBED IN THIS REPORT (13)

CAUSE	SYSTEM	COMPONENT	MANUFACTURER	REPORTABLE TO NPRDS	CAUSE	SYSTEM	COMPONENT	MANUFACTURER	REPORTABLE TO NPRDS

SUPPLEMENTAL REPORT EXPECTED (14)

YES
(If yes, complete EXPECTED SUBMISSION DATE).

NO

EXPECTED SUBMISSION DATE (15)

MONTH DAY YEAR

ABSTRACT (Limit to 1400 spaces, i.e., approximately 15 single-spaced typewritten lines) (16)

The plant was operating at 100 percent power with the reactor mode switch in Run. On 5/18/94, during periodic review of a test procedure for the west diesel fire pump starting battery, it was identified that a Technical Specification requirement to visually inspect battery cell plates had been removed from the procedure. On 10/10/91, a procedure change deleted cell plate visual inspection because the opacity of the cell jars limited the ability to do the inspection. Personnel involved in implementing the procedure change failed to adequately review the Technical Specification, Cause Code A.

Administrative controls for review and revision of test procedures were upgraded in 1993 as a part of the surveillance test program improvement plan. The controls for procedure changes were also improved. This error was discovered using the new controls. There is no safety significance associated with this event because other quantitative testing has assured battery capacity and reliability. Cell plate inspection was restored to the test procedure and a Technical Specification Interpretation written which describes both the scope of inspection and periodic battery replacement if the battery is not supplied with clear cell jars. LER numbers 92-032 and 93-027 describe similar test procedure weaknesses.

LICENSEE EVENT REPORT (LER)
TEXT CONTINUATION

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FACILITY NAME (1)	DOCKET NUMBER (2)	LER NUMBER (6)		PAGE (3)	
James A. FitzPatrick Nuclear Power Plant	05000333	YEAR	SEQUENTIAL NUMBER	REVISION NUMBER	02 OF 03
		94	003	00	

TEXT (If more space is required, use additional copies of NRC Form 366A) (17)

EIIS Codes are in []

Event Description

The plant was operating at 100 percent power with the reactor mode switch in Run.

Maintenance procedure writers were performing a periodic review and update of the surveillance test procedure for the west diesel fire pump [KP] starting battery. On May 18, 1994 it was determined that a Technical Specification requirement to visually inspect the battery cell plates had been removed from the procedure.

Investigation determined that a procedure change made on October 10, 1991, deleted the cell plate inspection. The basis for this change was that the cell plates of the installed starting batteries were not visible, except for a small portion observable through the fill and vent port, due to the opacity of the cell jars. Verification that the cell plates show no visual indication of physical damage or abnormal deterioration is a requirement of the Technical Specification, paragraph 4.12.A.1.m.

The starting batteries were replaced and satisfactorily tested on May 23, 1994.

Cause

The cause of this event was personnel error, Cause Code A. The personnel involved in the initiation, review and approval of the procedure change failed to adequately review the Technical Specification.

Analysis

This event is reported pursuant to 10CFR50.73(a)(2)(i)(B) as a condition prohibited by the Technical Specification. The visual cell plate inspection was intended to provide indication of degradation such as shedding of plate material, discoloration or sediment buildup within the jar which could shorten battery life. Other testing which is performed at the indicated frequency have assured battery reliability and capacity:

- Verify proper charger operation - Weekly
- Verify electrolyte level above plates - Weekly

LICENSEE EVENT REPORT (LER)
TEXT CONTINUATION

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FACILITY NAME (1)	DOCKET NUMBER (2)	LER NUMBER (6)			PAGE (3)
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James A. FitzPatrick Nuclear Power Plant	05000333	94	003	00	03 OF 03

TEXT (If more space is required, use additional copies of NRC Form 366A) (17)

- Verify overall battery voltage greater than or equal to 24 Volts DC - Weekly
- Verify temperature corrected battery electrolyte specific gravity greater than or equal to 1.250 - Quarterly
- Verify cell temperatures between 40 and 90 degrees fahrenheit - Quarterly
- Visually inspected the battery, terminal connections and battery rack for cleanliness, electrolyte leakage, corrosion, signs of damage, abnormal deterioration or loose connections - Quarterly

This quantitative testing coupled with the use of redundant banks of starting batteries make this occurrence not safety significant.

Corrective Actions:

1. A Technical Specification Interpretation was written to describe how to conduct a cell plate inspection through the fill ports for batteries supplied without clear plastic jars. The interpretation also requires periodic battery replacement, not to exceed 30 months, for batteries supplied without clear plastic jars. The Technical Specification Interpretation was approved on May 20, 1994.
2. The installed batteries were replaced and the new batteries satisfactorily tested on May 23, 1994.
3. Inspection of the starting battery cell plates was restored to the test procedure on June 8, 1994.
4. The test program was updated on June 9, 1994 to include periodic replacement of the batteries.

Additional Information:

Failed Components: None

Similar Events: LER-93-027 and 92-032 describe similar test procedure errors.