

A. A. O'Kelly  
Subcommittee Chairman

January 25, 1968

C. W. Zabel

Original Signed by

J. E. Hard, Senior Staff Assistant  
ACRS

J. E. Hard

CATEGORY B REPORTS - SAXTON

The following reports are attached for review.

1. Amendment No. 2 to Change Request No. 25, dated October 10, 1967
2. Change Report No. 14, dated October 10, 1967
3. Operating Experience Report for Period 3/1/67 - 8/31/67, and 10/12/67
4. Change No. 29 to License No. DFR-4, dated October 13, 1967
5. Amendment No. 3 to Change Request No. 25, dated November 21, 1967
6. Notice of Proposed Issuance of Operating License Amendment; Proposed Operating License Amendment; Safety Evaluation; Attachment A - Change No. 25 to Technical Specifications, dated December 26, 1967

My summary of the contents of the reports is also forwarded. You will note that the Saxton plant is being used as a combined training and testing facility. We should probably remain alert to problems which may arise because of this combined function.

No other ACRS action is recommended.

Attachments:

1. Above Reports,  
    listed 1-6
2. Summary

FILE: Saxton

A/67

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Saxton

Amendment No. 2 to Change Request No. 25, dated October 10, 1967, describes additional changes being made in support of the proposed operation at 35 Mwt. One of these changes involves powering the reactor coolant pump from the variable frequency M-G set. This assures an increased flow coastdown on loss of power because of the flywheel effect of the M-G set.

Change Report No. 14, dated October 10, 1967, describes the design changes which have been made to the Supercritical Loop which has been licensed for operation at Saxton. A new loop flow diagram is included. Most of the changes involve simplifications to the instrumentation and control systems.

Operating Experience Report for the Period March 1 - August 31, 1967. The plant remained shut down from the start of the period until August 4. Miscellaneous problems arose after startup and the reactor was shutdown again at month end.

During the shutdown period the Supercritical Loop was completed, tested, and the test section installed in the reactor. Inadvertent loop pressurization during startup operations on August 20 caused the safety valves to lift. The loop was operated at supercritical conditions of temperature and pressure and at full reactor power (23.5 Mwt) for the first time on August 29.

During preparations for startup in May, control rod No. 5 jammed in the nearly-fully-inserted position. A lifting force of 162 lbs. plus the normal driving force was required to free the rod. Inspection showed a line of gouges to be present on one side of one blade in the top adaptor section. Plant management hypothesizes that a small piece of hard material had been wedged between the adaptor and the upper guide block. The offending material could not be found. The rod was re-installed.

In August, 40 training startups were made. The trainees included employees of Saxton, Metropolitan Edison Company, Rochester Gas and Electric Company, and Nordostschweizerische Kraftwerke A. G. The plant continues to be used in a combined personnel training-testing facility role.

Change No. 29 to the Technical Specifications, dated October 13, 1967, authorizes Saxton to irradiate a new subassembly having pressurized, Zr-4 clad, PuO<sub>2</sub>-H<sub>2</sub>O rods.

Amendment No. 3 to Change Request No. 25, dated November 21, 1967, contains information regarding safety valve anti-simmer device testing and instrumentation changes for 35 Mwt operation.

A Notice of Proposed Issuance of Operating License Amendment, dated December 26, 1967, relates to authorization to operate the plant at 35 Mwt for approximately 3500 Mwt days.

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