NRC Form 366
(9-83)

U.S. NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
APPROVED OMB NO. 3150-0104
EXPIRES: 8/31/85

LICENSEE EVENT REPORT (LER)

FACILITY NAME (1)	DOCKET NUMBER (2)	PAGE (3)
Joseph M. Farley - Unit 1	0 5 0 0 0 3 4 8	1 OF 0 2

TITLE (4)
Inoperable Service Water Battery

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 NAMES	DOCKET NUMBER(S)
0 5	0 1	8 4	8 4	0 1 1	0 0	0 5	2 5	8 4	J. M. Farley - Unit 2	0 5 0 0 0 3 6 4
										0 5 0 0 0

OPERATING MODE (9)	1	THIS REPORT IS SUBMITTED PURSUANT TO THE REQUIREMENTS OF 10 CFR §: (Check one or more of the following) (11)			
POWER LEVEL (10)	0 4 7	20.402(b)	20.405(c)	50.73(a)(2)(iv)	73.71(b)
		20.405(a)(1)(i)	50.36(c)(1)	X 50.73(a)(2)(v)	73.71(c)
		20.405(a)(1)(ii)	50.36(c)(2)	50.73(a)(2)(vii)	OTHER (Specify in Abstract below and in Text, NRC Form 366A)
		20.405(a)(1)(iii)	50.73(a)(2)(i)	50.73(a)(2)(viii)(A)	
		20.405(a)(1)(iv)	50.73(a)(2)(ii)	50.73(a)(2)(viii)(B)	
		20.405(a)(1)(v)	50.73(a)(2)(iii)	50.73(a)(2)(x)	

LICENSEE CONTACT FOR THIS LER (12)

NAME	TELEPHONE NUMBER
W. G. Hairston, III	AREA CODE 2 0 5 8 9 9 - 5 1 5 6

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)		EXPECTED SUBMISSION DATE (15)	MONTH	DAY	YEAR
YES (If yes, complete EXPECTED SUBMISSION DATE)	X NO				

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

At 1035 on 5-1-84, during performance of FNP-0-STP-606.2 (Service Water Building Battery Weekly Verification), the B train service water battery was declared inoperable due to cell number 42 (EJ, BTRY) having a specific gravity of 1.182 corrected to 77 degrees Fahrenheit versus 1.190 required. The affected cell and the two neighboring cells (3 cell unit) were replaced. Health/safety of the public was not affected.

FACILITY NAME (1)	DOCKET NUMBER (2)	LER NUMBER (6)			PAGE (3)
		YEAR	SEQUENTIAL NUMBER	REVISION NUMBER	
Joseph M. Farley Nuclear Plant - Unit1	0 5 0 0 0 3 4 8	8 4	— 0 1 1	— 0 0	0 2 OF 0 2

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

On 05-01-84, FNP-0-STP-606.2 (Service Water Building Battery Weekly Verification) was performed on the B train battery. At 1035, the battery was declared inoperable due to cell number 42 (EJ, BTRY) having a specific gravity of 1.182 corrected to 77 degrees Fahrenheit versus 1.190 required by technical specification 4.8.2.4.2.a.2. It is noted that the specific gravity of this cell and of the other cells was still sufficient to fulfill the FSAR load requirements with margin.

It is suspected that the low specific gravity was caused by current tracking across the battery case between the cell terminals. This tracking may result from contaminants introduced during battery operation and may be compounded by the close terminal spacing of the service water battery. Such tracking could shunt the float charge in a manner as to slowly deplete the cell specific gravity. Since similar occurrences have been reported (see LERs 78-026/03L-0 [Unit 1], 80-056/03L-0 [Unit 1], 80-067/03L-0 [Unit 1], 80-070/03L-0 [Unit 1], 83-017/03L-0 [Unit 1], and 83-041/03L-0 [Unit 1]), this is believed to be a potentially generic problem rather than a random problem.

The affected cell and two neighboring cells (3 cell unit) were replaced restoring the B train battery to operable status at 1225 on 05-01-84. An engineering evaluation is in progress to determine a means to prevent recurrence.

CJS:?sh-D16

Mailing Address
Alabama Power Company
600 North 18th Street
Post Office Box 2641
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R. P. McDonald
Senior Vice President-
Nuclear Generation
Flintridge Building

Alabama Power
the southern electric system

May 25, 1984

Docket Nos. 50-348

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

Dear Sir:

Joseph M. Farley Nuclear Plant - Unit 1, Licensee Event Report No. LER 84-011-00 is forwarded in accordance with 10CFR50.73 to provide 30 days written notification of this occurrence.

If you have any questions, please advise.

Yours very truly,

R. P. McDonald

RPM/CJS:lsh-D16
Enclosure
cc: IE, Region II

IE22
1/1