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August 24, 1995 ND3MNO:3701

Beaver Valley Power Station, Unit No. 2 Docket No. 50-412, Licensee No. NPF-73 LER 95-004-00

United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission Document Control Desk Washington, DC 20555

In accordance with Appendix A, Beaver Valley Technical Specifications, the following Licensee Event Report is submitted:

LER 95-004-00, 10 CFR 50.73.a.2.ii, "Technical Specification Violation Involving High Seal Injection Flow".

L. R. Freeland General Manager Nuclear Operations

JGT/tp

Attachment

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

On 7/25/95, a review of reactor coolant pump (RCP) seal injection flows identified a total seal injection flow greater than allowable by Technical Specifications (TS). This condition existed from 1256 hours on 7/23/95 until discovery on 7/25/95. On 7/23/95, shift operations personnel were preparing an equipment tagout for the 21B charging pump. The 21A charging pump was started and the 21C charging pump was placed into standby service using plant procedures. This alignment was completed at 1256 hours. Although referenced by the procedure, total seal injection flow was not verified to be in the acceptable range following the switch to a pump that produced slightly higher discharge head. (21C charging pump). TS 3.5.4, "Seal Injection Flow", requires RCP seal injection flow to be less than or equal to 28 gallons per minute (gpm). Total seal injection flow was discovered by testing to be 29.4 gpm on 7/25/95 at 1010 hours. The cause for this event was personnel error. Total seal injection flow was restored to within TS limits on 7/25/95 at 1101 hours. There were no safety implications as a result of this event. An analysis was performed which concluded that there would be no reduction of total design safety injection flow as a result of the increased seal injection flow, because the increased seal flow was a result of improved pump performance and not re-adjustment of system valves.

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Beaver Valley Power Station Unit 2	05000412	YEAR	SEQUENTIAL NUMBER	REVISION NUMBER 00		
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GESCRIPTION OF EVENT

On 7/25/95, with Beaver Valley Unit 2 at 100 percent power, a review of reactor coolant pump seal injection flows identified a total seal injection flow greater than allowable by Technical Specifications. This condition existed from 1256 hours on 7/23/95 until discovery on 7/25/95. On 7/23/95 at 0930 hours, shift operations personnel were preparing an equipment tagout for the 21B charging pump. The 21A charging pump was started and the 21B charging pump was shutdown to facilitate the equipment tagout. The 21C charging pump was placed into standby service. This alignment was concleted at 1256 hours. Total seal injection flow was not verified to be in the acceptable range following the switch to a slightly better performing pump (21C charging pump). Once the 21C charging pump was started and verified operating properly, the operators exited the procedure in use without ensuring the referenced surveillance procedure for seal injection flow was also completed. Technical Specification 3.5.4, "Seal Injection Flow", requires reactor coolant pump seal injection flow to be less than or equal to 28 gallons per minute (gpm). Total seal injection flow was discovered by testing to be 29.4 gpm on 7/25/95 at 1010 hours. A review of previous performances of the procedure used for starting and stopping charging pumps from January 1995 to this event identified additional instances where charging pumps were switched and the referenced surveillance for seal injection flow was not performed. One occurrence, on 3/22/95 involving a start of the 21A charging pump after securing the 21C charging pump on 3/19/95, identified that seal injection flow was greater than 28 gpm from 1100 hours on 3/22/95 until 0600 hours on 3/23/95.

CAUSE OF THE EVENT

The cause for this event was personnel error. The reactor operator was using an approved procedure as guidance to align the charging pumps for the electrical bus (diesel generator loading) considerations (21A charging pump on 2AE 4KV Bus and 21C charging pump on 2DF 4KV Bus). Upon start of the 21A charging pump, the operator noted that seal injection flow on all three reactor coolant pumps was approximately 9.0 gpm on each pump. The procedure was exited prior to the step requiring performance of the surveillance test to measure total seal injection flow.

CORRECTIVE ACTIONS

The following corrective action have been or will be taken as a result of this event:

- 1. Total seal injection flow was restored to within Technical Specification limits on 7/25/95 at 1101 hours.
- The procedure for placing a charging pump in service will be enhanced to require a signoff to ensure performance of the surveillance test to measure seal injection flow.
- 3. The involved individuals were counseled.
- This event will be discussed in Licensed Retraining to ensure that operators are aware that total seal injection flow needs to be verified after re-aligning charging pumps.

NRC FORM 366A (5-92)

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REPORTABILITY

This event involved a technical specification violation and is reportable in accordance with 10CFR50.73.a.2.ii

SAFETY IMPLICATIONS

There were no safety implications as a result of this event. An analysis of the high seal injection flow was performed which concluded that there were no new or unreviewed safety consequences. Decreased resistance in the reactor coolant pump seal injection lines would allow more safety injection flow to be diverted away from the normal safety injection flowpath. This analysis concluded that there would be no decreased resistance through the reactor coolant pump seal injection lines because the seal injection throttle valves had not been re-adjusted. The increased seal flow capability was caused solely by a higher performing pump. All three charging pump individually meet the minimum performance requirements.

PREVIOUS SIMILAR OCCURRENCES

No previous similar events involved excessive reactor coolant pump seal injection flow have been reported over the previous three years.