



Northern States Power Company

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March 19, 1992

10 CFR Part 50 Section 50.73

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

> PRAIRIE ISLAND NUCLEAR GENERATING PLANT Docket Nos. 50-282 License Nos. DPR-42 50-306 DPR-60

Unplanned Auto-Start Of An Auxiliary Feedwater Pump Due To Personnel Error

The Licensee Event Report for this occurrence is attached.

This event was reported via the Emergency Notification System in accordance with 10 CFR Part 50, Section 50.72, on February 19, 1992. Please contact us if you require additional information related to this event.

Thomas M Parker

Manager

Nuclear Support Services

c: Regional Administrator - Region III, NRC NRR Project Manager, NRC Senior Resident Inspector, NRC Dr Raymond Thron, MDH

Attachment

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ABSTRACT (Limit to 1400 spaces i.e. approximately tilteen single space systemisten imagi [16]

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On February 18, 1992, Unit 2 was in hot sinteewn in preparation for refueling. The main steam isolation valves had been closed, but there was some leakage by the valves, causing cooldown of the reactor coolant system. SP2103, No. 22 Turbine-Driven Auxiliary Feedwater Pump Test, was begun at 2345 hours. This test is a full flow test of the pump. The addition of cold water to the steam generators from the performance of this test aggravated the cooldown of the reactor coolant system. A result of the cooldown is that steam generator water levels shrink. The operator performing the test in the control room was cautioned by other operators to watch steam generator levels. The operator noted that there was 65% wide range level in the steam generators, and did not realize that he was being cautioned concerning the potential auto-start of No. 21 Motor-Driven Auxiliary Feedwater Pump at 13% narrow range level. At 0051 on February 19, 1992, Jo. 21 Motor-Driven Auxiliary Feedwater Pump started automatically. This was a non-ESF actuation of ESF equipment.

DATE IS

NAC FORM 366A (6-99)

U.S. NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

APPROVED OM8 10, 3150-0104 EXPIRES 4/30/92

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EVENT DESCRIPTION

On February 18, 1992, Unit 2 was in hot shutdown in preparation for refueling. The main steam isolation valves had been closed, but there was some leakage by the valves, causing cooldown of the reactor coolant system. SP2103, No. 22 Turbine-Driven Auxiliary Feedwater Pump Test (EIIS System Identifier BA), was begun at 2345 hours. This test is a full flow test of the pump. The addition of cold water to the steam generators from performance of this test aggravated the cooldown of the reactor coolant system. A result of the cooldown is that steam generator water levels shrink. The operator performing the test in the control room was cautioned by other operators to watch steam generator levels. The operator noted that there was 65% wide range level in the steam generators, and did not realize that he was being cautioned concerning the potential auto-start of No. 21 Motor-Driven Auxiliary Feedwater Pump at 13% narrow range level. At 0051 on February 19, 1992, No. 22 Motor-Driven Auxiliary Feedwater Fump started automatically. This was a non-ESF actuation of ESF equipment.

CAUSE OF THE EVENT

This event had several causes:

- 1. Verbal Communication The operator performing the test was told by other operators to watch the steam generator levels. When cautioned to watch steam generator levels, he did not realize they were concerned with auto-start of the other auxiliary feedwater pump since they did not specify which level indications to watch or the reason for watching the levels.
- 2. Written Communication The surveillance procedure does not follow the writers' guide for "Instruction for Content of Each Section".
- Perceived Pressure to Complete Task The operator performing the test perceived some pressure to complete the test since the RCS was being cooled down.

NRC FORM 366A (6-89)

U.S. NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

APPROVED DMB NO. 3150-0104 EXPIRES: 4/3, -92

LICENSEE EVENT REPORT (LER)
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CORRECTIVE ACTION

- Personnel were reminded that verbal messages need to be rlear and complete
 to avoid misunderstanding.
- Auxiliary feedwater pump test procedures will be revised to bring them into compliance with the writers' guide.
- Review the conditions for performing this test to determine if there is a more advantageous time for placement of the test in the outage schedule.

ANALYSIS OF THE EVENT

Auxiliary feedwater pumps are routinely used during startup and shutdown operations. Since No. 21 Motor-Driven Auxiliary Feedwater Pump responded as dasigned during this event, there was no effect on the health and safety of the public.

Since this event resulted in an unplanned automatic start of an ESF component, it is reportable pursuant to 10CFR50.73(a)(2)(iv).

FAILED COMPONENT IDENTIFICATION

None.

PREVIOUS SIMILAR EVE TS

Previous unplanned auto-starts of auxiliary feedwater pumps have been reported as Unit 1 LER's 87-006 and 89-005, and Unit 2 LER's 86-004, 90-004, and 90-005.