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NRC Form 366A (9-83)	LICENSEE EVENT REPORT (LER) TEXT CONTINUATION						U.S. NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION APPROVED OMB NO. 3150-0104 EXPIRES: 8/31/85						
FACILITY NAME (1)	DOCKET NUMBER (2)	1	L	ER NUMBER (6)		PAGE (3)							
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EVENT DESCRIPTION

TEXT (If more space is required, use additional NRC Form 36EA's) (17)

On July 13, 1984, Crystal River Unit 3 was in steady state operation at 98.5% reactor power and generating 857 MWe. At 1752, the 'B' Emergency Diesel Generator (EGDG-IB)(EK,DG) auto started and the 'B' emergency diesel air start pressure low alarm (LC, PA) was activated. Investigation revealed that a drain petcock on filter EGFL-3 (LC, FLT) had failed. Refer to Figure 1. Loss of air at the petcock fitting caused a drop in pressure on the operator for air start valve EGV-58 (LC,V), causing the valve to open. This supplied starting air to EGDG-IB and the engine was started.

On April 4, 1984, the same failure occurred on filter EGFL-4 drain petcock resulting in an auto-start of EGDG-IB. At the time this event occurred, 10 CFR 50.73 (A) (2) (iv) was interpreted to mean that an Engineered Safety Feature (ESF) component actuation was not reportable unless actuated by ES logic. Therefore, this previous diesel generator actuation was not reported. Following the July 13, 1984 actuation, the event was re-evaluated using examples in NUREG 1022, Supplement No. 1, and determined to be reportable. This LER, therefore, is written to report both events.

The bodies on filters EGFL-3 and 4 are made of plastic. This material was apparently unable to withstand normal pressure surges in the diesel air start system and eventually cracked and broke at the petcock. Engineering will evaluate these filters for possible replacement.

SAFETY CONSIDERATIONS

In both cases, the diesel generator successfully automatically started when the filter failed. Starting air pressure, however, was bled down to a point where the diesel could not be restarted if secured. For the event on April 4, 1984, the diesel was secured after starting, therefore the diesel was inoperable until the filter was repaired and starting air pressure recharged (II hours). For the July 13, 1984 event, the diesel was kept running until the air start system was repaired.

With one of the two emergency diesel generators inoperable, plant operation is permitted by Technical Specifications for 72 hours. Thus, these events were bounded by the safety analysis for CR-3.

CORRECTIVE ACTION

Engineering will evaluate the defective filters for possible replacement with a more durable filter.

PREVIOUS SIMILAR EVENTS

The two occurrences reported here are the only two failures that have resulted in the diesel generator starting.



Florida Power

August 9, 1984 3F08-84-06

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

Subject: Crystal River Unit 3 Docket No. 50-302 Operating License No. DPR-72 Licensee Event Report No. 84-015-00

Dear Sir:

Enclosed is Licensee Event Report (LER) No. 84-015-00 which is submitted in accordance with 10 CFR 50.73.

Should there be any questions, please contact this office.

Sincerely,

Hestafe

G. R. Westafer Manager, Nuclear Operations Licensing and Fuel Management

AEF/feb

Enclosure

cc: Mr. James P. O'Reilly Regional Administrator, Region II Office of Inspection & Enforcement U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission IOI Marietta Street N.W., Suite 2900 Atlanta, GA 30323

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