

PHILADELPHIA ELECTRIC COMPANY

PEACH BOTTOM ATOMIC POWER STATION

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KEN POWERS
PLANT MANAGER

May 7, 1992

Docket Nos. 50-277
50-278

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

SUBJECT: Licensee Event Report
Peach Bottom Atomic Power Station - Units 2 and 3

This LER concerns a Technical Specification violation due to lost particulate samples.

Reference: Docket Nos. 50-277
50-278
Report Number: 2-92-007
Revision Number: 00
Event Date: 04/07/92
Report Date: 05/07/92
Facility: Peach Bottom Atomic Power Station
RD 1, Box 208, Delta, PA 17314

This LER is being submitted pursuant to the requirements of 10 CFR 50.73(a)(2)(i)(B).

Sincerely,

cc: J. J. Lyash, USNRC Senior Resident Inspector
T. T. Martin, USNRC, Region I

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LICENSEE EVENT REPORT (LER)
TEXT CONTINUATION

ESTIMATED BURDEN PER RESPONSE TO COMPLY WITH THIS INFORMATION COLLECTION REQUEST, 50.0 HRS. FORWARD COMMENTS REGARDING BURDEN ESTIMATE TO THE RECORDS AND REPORTS MANAGEMENT BRANCH (P-630), U.S. NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION, WASHINGTON, DC 20555, AND TO THE PAPERWORK REDUCTION PROJECT (3150-0104), OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET, WASHINGTON, DC 20503.

FACILITY NAME (1) Peach Bottom Atomic Power Station Units 2 and 3	LOCKET NUMBER (2) 0 5 0 0 0 2 7 7	LER NUMBER (6)			PAGE (3)		
		YEAR 9 2	SEQUENTIA NUMBER 0 0 7	REVISION NUMBER 0 0			OF 0 3

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

Requirements for the Report

This report is submitted to satisfy the requirements of 10 CFR 50.73(a)(2)(i)(B) concerning a violation of Technical Specifications (Tech Specs).

Unit Conditions at Time of Discovery

Unit 2 was at 94% of rated thermal and Unit 3 was at 100% rated thermal power. There were no structures, systems, or components that were inoperable that contributed to this event.

Event Description

On 4/7/92, Chemistry staff personnel determined that certain particulate filter sample analyses could not be completed as required by Tech Specs. Tech Specs require that monthly samples of Unit 2 and Unit 3 Reactor Building (RB) ventilation stack and plant Main Stack sampling system (E1IS:IK) particulate filters be analyzed to determine radioactive alpha and beta activity. This data is then used to calculate dose rates in accordance with the Off-Site Dose Calculation Manual (ODCM). Additionally, this data is used to report quantities of gaseous effluents in the Semi-annual Radioactive Effluent Release Report.

During March, surveillances were performed to gather weekly filters. These filters were then sent to a chemistry analysis contractor, Teledyne Isotopes Laboratory, for analysis. On 4/7/92, the contractor contacted PECO chemistry personnel and informed them that samples were not in their possession and they had no record of receiving them.

Cause of the Event

The cause of the event is due to the loss of the samples by Teledyne. The particulate filter samples were documented by PECO to be sent in the same bucket with liquid samples. The liquid samples were analyzed by the contractor and results returned to PECO Chemistry personnel. However, the particulate samples were not analyzed by the contractor. Although it is unknown what happened to the particulate samples, a possible explanation is that they were mistakenly discarded by Teledyne due to their lightness. It is possible that the filters were still in the bucket although the contractor thought it was empty. Contractor investigation included a search of trash containers and questioning receiving room personnel. Receiving personnel stated that to the best of their knowledge there was no particulate filter samples in the bucket. Trash containers had already been emptied by waste haulers and had been processed beyond the point that the search could continue.

LICENSEE EVENT REPORT (LER)
TEXT CONTINUATION

ESTIMATED BURDEN PER RESPONSE TO COMPLY WITH THIS INFORMATION COLLECTION REQUEST: 50.0 HRS. FORWARD COMMENTS REGARDING BURDEN ESTIMATE TO THE RECORDS AND REPORTS MANAGEMENT BRANCH (P-530), U.S. NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION, WASHINGTON, DC 20585, AND TO THE PAPERWORK REDUCTION PROJECT (3150-0104), OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET, WASHINGTON, DC 20503.

FACILITY NAME (1) Peach Bottom Atomic Power Station Units 2 and 3	DOCKET NUMBER (2) 0 5 0 1 0 0 2 7 7	LER NUMBER (6)			PAGE (3)		
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TEXT (If more space is required, use additional NRC Form 366A's) (17)

Analysis of the Event

No actual safety consequences occurred as a result of this event. During the operating period that the samples were taken, no unusual plant conditions occurred that would result in higher than normal release levels. Previous and subsequent sample analysis have resulted in no unusual activity. Since the total activity was only approximately 6 nanocuries, no radwaste concerns exist if the samples were inadvertently discarded by the contractor.

Corrective Actions

A detailed evaluation of plant conditions during the period of the lost samples will be conducted. This evaluation will be used to estimate dose rates for inclusion in the semi-annual radioactive effluent release report. Appropriate conservatisms will be factored in.

Future samples sent to the contractor will be put in a more conspicuous container to minimize the possibility of being discarded. An additional corrective action will be to cut the sample filters in half prior to off-site shipment to the contractor. Upon receipt of the contractor analysis, the results would then be multiplied by 2. This would allow for a redundant half of the samples to remain with PECO in the event of future loss of samples. The need to cut the filters in two may be revisited in the future if the more conspicuous container is determined to be sufficient to preclude recurrence of this event.

Previous Similar Events

There have been no previous similar events identified resulting in a Tech Spec violation due to lost samples.