Duke Power Company Catawba Nuclear Station 4800 Concord Road York, SC 29745



DUKE POWER

January 15, 1996

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

Subject:

Catawba Nuclear Station

Docket No. 50-414 LER 414/95-006

Gentlemen:

Attached is Licensee Event Report Missed Technical Specification for AC Offsite Power Sources.

This event is considered to be of no significance with respect to the health and safety of the public.

Very truly yours,

Mark E. Patrick for W. R. McCollum, Jr.

Attachment

CC:

Mr. S.D. Ebneter Administrator, Region II U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission 101 Marietta St., NW, Suite 2900 Atlanta, GA 30323

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U. S. Nuclear Regulatory CommissionJanuary 15, 1996Page Two

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ESTIMATED BIJEDEN PER RESPONSE TO COMPLY WITH THIS INFORMATION COLLECTION REQUEST. 50.0 HRS. FORWARD COMMENTS REGARDING BURDEN ESTIMATE TO THE INFORMATION AND RECORDS MANAGEMENT BRANCH (MNBB 7714), U.S. NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION, WASHINGTON, DC 20555-0001, AND TO THE PAPERWORK REDUCTION PROJECT (3150-0104), OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BURDEST. WASHINGTON, DC 20503.

LICENSEE EVENT REPORT (LER)

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

X NO

Unit Status: Unit 2 - Mode 1 (Power Operation) at 87 percent power.

YES (f yes, complete EXPECTED SUBMISSION DATE)

Event Description: On December 15, 1995, at 0235 hours, a violation of Technical Specification (T/S) surveillance requirement 4.8.1.1.1a was identified by the Control Room Senior Reactor Operator. This surveillance, which involves the verification of AC offsite power source operability, was due at 0100 hours; the surveillance was successfully completed at 0257 hours. Diesel generator 2B had been declared inoperable at 1040 hours on December 13, 1995. The AC offsite power sources were verified operable within one hour of declaring the diesel generator inoperable and at least once per eight hours thereafter, except as noted above. Diesel generator 2B was declared operable on December 16, 1995, at 0030 hours.

Event Cause: The root cause of this event is attributed to personnel error due to inattention to detail by the Unit 2 Operator at the Controls (OATC).

Corrective Action: Management's expectations for attention to detail have been discussed with the OATC.

Planned corrective action includes discussion of lessons learned from this event with other control room operators.

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			YEAR		SEQUENTIAL NUMBER		REVISION NUMBER				
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2 OF 5

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BACKGROUND

The Diesel Generator [EIIS:EK] (EQA) system operates to provide standby AC power to equipment required to safely shutdown the reactor [EIIS:RCT] in the event of a loss of the normal power source and to supply power to safeguards equipment as required during a design basis accident coincident with a loss of the normal power source. Two mutually redundant diesel generators (D/Gs) are provided per unit and are physically separated in individual category 1 enclosures to preserve their independence and integrity and to assure their maximum availability.

The primary purpose of the D/G Engine Cooling Water [EIIS:LB] (KD) system is to maintain the temperature of the D/G engine during all phases of operation which include warming the engine during standby, cooling the engine during operation, and dissipating residual heat following shutdown.

PT/2/A/4350/02C, Available Power Source Operability Check, is the periodic testing procedure used to verify the operability of the remaining power sources when one or more offsite or D/Gs become inoperable.

OP/2/A/6350/02, Diesel Generator Operation, Enclosure 4.16, Removing (Returning)
D/G 2B From (To) Service, is the procedure used to ensure proper actions are taken when removing or returning
D/G 2B from or to service. This procedure instructs the operators to perform PT/2/A/4350/02C and to comply with the action statements of Technical Specification 3.8.1.1.

Technical Specification 3.8.1.1 requires, as a minimum, that the following AC electrical power sources shall be operable during Modes 1 - Power Operation, 2 - Startup, 3 - Hot Standby, and 4 - Hot Shutdown:

- Two physically independent circuits between the offsite transmission network and the onsite essential auxiliary power system, and
- · Two separate and independent diesel generators.

Per action statement (c) to this T/S, with one D/G inoperable, action is required to demonstrate the operability of the AC offsite sources by performing surveillance requirement 4.8.1.1.1a within one hour and at least once per eight hours thereafter.

A freestanding, manual timer which is not part of the control board is used as an aid to audibly notify the control room operators to perform the surveillance. The use of this timer is controlled by PT/2/A/4350/02C.

NRC FORM 386A

U.S. NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION(6-

APPROVED OMB NO 3150-0104 EXPIRES 5/31/95

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FACILITY NAME (1) DOCKET NUMBER (2)				LER NUMBER (6) PAGE (3)							
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EVENT DESCRIPTION

December 13, 1995

1040 hours D/G 2B was declared inoperable due to KD temperature being below 140 degrees Fahrenheit.

1056 hours PT/2/A/4350/02C, Available Power Source Operability Check, was successfully completed per the requirements of T/S surveillance 4.8.1.1.1a. Verification at eight hour intervals was commenced.

December 14, 1995

2300 hours D/G 2B operability run initiated per OP/2/A/6350/02.

2345 hours D/G 2B operability run terminated due to fuel leakage at cylinder 2R. The Unit 2 operator at the controls (OATC) was contacted and dispatched two fire brigade members to the diesel room as a precaution.

December 15, 1995

0001 hours Unit 2 power reduction to 87 percent full power initiated to allow for prescheduled testing and secondary system repairs.

0010 hours The surveillance timer sounds to remind operators of the need to perform PT/2/A/4350/02C by 0100 hours.

0235 hours The control room Senior Reactor Operator (CRSRO) identified that PT/2/A/4350/02C was not performed at 0100 hours as required. The OATC was immediately notified and the surveillance was initiated.

0257 hours PT/2/A/4350/02C was successfully completed per the requirements of T/S surveillance 4.8.1.1.1a and was subsequently completed at the required eight hour intervals until D/G 2B was declared operable at 0030 hours on December 16, 1995.

NRC FORM 366A

U.S. NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION(6-

APPROVED OMB NO. 3150-0104 EXPIRES 5/31/95

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CONCLUSION

This event involves the failure to verify the operability of AC offsite power sources per surveillance requirement 4.8.1.1.1a within the timeframe specified in action statement 3.8.1.1c. The root cause of this event is attributed to a personnel error (skill based) due to inattention to detail (memory slip/lapse) by the Unit 2 OATC.

At 0001 hours on December 15, 1995, the OATC initiated a unit load decrease. This reactivity change was being observed by a license trainee under the OATC's instruction. At 0010 hours the surveillance timer sounded to remind control room personnel that the AC offsite power operability verification was due in fifty minutes. The timer was silenced by the trainee at the request of the OATC who was involved in a telephone conversation regarding the operability of the operator aid computer which was giving erroneous alarms. At this time the CRSRO was involved in the response to the D/G 2B fuel oil leak and the balance of plant operator was attending to other duties outside the immediate surveillance area. Following completion of the phone conversation, the OATC returned to the control board to continue with the unit load decrease and forgot to perform or instruct other control room personnel to perform the AC offsite power operability verification surveillance.

Immediately upon discovery that the surveillance had not been performed, the control room was notified and the surveillance was completed. The OATC has been counseled for improved performance. Planned corrective action includes discussion of the cause of this event and lessons learned with all other control room operators.

A review of the Operating Experience Database for the twenty four months preceding this event did not identify any events in which T/S surveillance 4.8.1.1.1a was not completed within the required timeframe. Additionally, this review did not identify any events in which a T/S surveillance conditional to plant operation was not complied with. This event is not considered recurring.

CORRECTIVE ACTIONS

SUBSEQUENT

- 1) Operations performed PT/2/A/4350/02C, Available Power Source Operability Check.
- 2) The Unit 2 OATC was counseled for improved performance.

PLANNED

1) The lessons learned from this event will be communicated to all other control room operators

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APPROVED OMB NO 3150-0104 EXPIRES 5/31/95

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SAFETY ANALYSIS

The operability of the AC offsite power sources was not verified during the hours of 0100 to 0257 on December 15, 1995, as required by Technical Specification surveillance 4.8.1.1.1a. AC offsite power had been verified operable at 1700 hours on December 14, 1995, and was verified operable at 0257 hours on December 15, 1995, following Operations identification that the eight hour surveillance had not been performed as required at 0100 hours. No related alarms were received and redundant AC offsite power sources were available during the one hour and fifty-seven minutes that AC offsite power had not been verified operable.

The health and safety of the public were not affected by this event.

DUKE POWER COMPANY/CATAWBA NUCLEAR STATION PIP 2-C95-2393/LER 414/95-006 Page 6

ENCLOSURE 8.1

Safety Review Group Signatures

Prepared By: R. S. Pursley	Date:	January 9, 1996
Reviewed By: R.S. Qualing		1/09/96
J. W. Sam	Date:	1/9/96
Afficholan	-Date:	01/09/96
De Phillips	Date	01/10/96
DSMiller	Date:	01/10/96
Approved By: D.P. Kn ball Manager SRG	Date:	1-10-96

ENCLOSURE 8.2

Listing of Enclosures

#_	Title
8.1	Safety Review Group Signatures
8.2	Listing of Enclosures
8.3	Cause Code Assignments
8.4	Corrective Action Schedule
8.5	References
8.6	Personnel Referenced

DUKE POWER COMPANY/CATAWBA NUCLEAR STATION PIP 2-C95-2393/LER 414/95-006 Page 7

ENCLOSURE 8.3

Cause Code Assignments

Root Cause

A3f

Verbal Communication - pertinent information not transmitted

Contributing Cause

None

ENCLOSURE 8.4

Corrective Action Schedule

Corrective Action	Assigned To	Due Date
1	OPS/OPT	06/15/96

ENCLOSURE 8.5

References

Catawba Final Safety Analysis Report
Catawba Design Bases Specification, KD System
Catawba Technical Specifications
OP/2/A/6350/02, Diesel Generator Operation
PT/2/A/4350/02C, Available Power Source Operability Check

ENCLOSURE 8.6

Personnel Referenced

LJ Benjamin Operations EP Madsen Operations WG Rudd Operations