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On November 26, 1984, the inboard RHR shutdown cooling suction valve closed as the result of receiving an isolation signal. The isolation was caused by an inadvertent actuation of one of the reactor steam dome high pressure switches. After the isolation signal cleared, the RHR system was returned to normal operation.

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84-019

Abstract:

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Description of the Event:

On November 26, 1984, at 3:23 a.m., prior to initial criticality, the RHR shutdown cooling inboard isolation valve HV-51-1F009 closed to the isolation position as the result of receiving a spurious reactor high pressure isolation signal. The RHR pumps that were running to facilitate reactor vessel heatup for the vessel hydrostatic test tripped as a result of the closure of the suction valve. After the isolation signal cleared the shutdown cooling mode of RHR was returned to service.

Consequences of the Event:

The nuclear steam supply shutoff system operated properly by isolating the RHR shutdown cooling system as a result of the reactor high pressure signal. During the time that RHR shutdown cooling was out of service, reactor water cleanup and control rod drive cooling were in operation to maintain cooling circulation to satisfy Technical Specification 3.4.9.2. There were no adverse consequences due to the isolation, since there was no decay heat being produced at the time of the event.

Cause of the Event:

Cause of the event is believed to be actuation of one of the two reactor steam dome high pressure instruments that are capable of closing the inboard RHR shutdown cooling suction valve. These devices are PT-42-IN078A and PT-42-IN078B. At the time of the event, instrument Technicians were backfilling instrument legs on rack C004. This rack contains PT-42-IN078A. At the same time, a response time test was being performed on PT-42-IN078B. A spurious signal from either of these transmitters causes their associated trip units to actuate. A light on the trip unit indicating the tripped condition stays lit only when the trip point is exceeded. Therefore, in the event of a spurious signal the trip unit light will only be illuminated momentarily. For this reason it was not possible to verify the specific switch that caused the isolation.

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Corrective Actions:

An instrumentation class has been established for instrument technicians. This training covers the proper methods of backfilling instruments and valving instruments into and out of service.

PHILADELPHIA ELECTRIC COMPANY

2301 MARKET STREET

P.O. BOX 8699

PHILADELPHIA, PA. 19101

(215) 841-4000

December 26, 1984

Docket No. 50-352

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

SUBJECT:

Licensee Event Report Limerick Generating Station - Unit 1

This LER deals with the automatic isolation of the RHR shutdown cooling inboard suction valve. This event occurred prior to initial criticality.

Reference:

Docket No. 50-352

Report Number:

84-019

Revision Number: 00 Event Date:

November 26, 1984 December 26, 1984

Report Date:

Facility:

Limerick Generating Station

P.O. Box A, Sanatoga, PA 19464

This LER is submitted pursuant to the requirements of 10CFR50.73 (a) (2) (IV).

Very truly yours,

27 Welland

W. T. Ullrich Superintendent

Nuclear Generation Division

cc: Dr. Thomas E. Murley, Administrator, Region I, USNRC J. T. Wiggins, Senior Site Inspector See Service List

cc: Judge Helen F. Hoyt Judge Jerry Harbour Judge Richard F. Cole Judge Christine N. Kohl Judge Gary J. Edles Judge Reginald L. Gotchy Troy B. Conner, Jr., Esq. Ann P. Hodgdon, Esq. Mr. Frank R. Romano Mr. Robert L. Anthony Ms. Phyllis Zitner Charles W. Elliott, Esq. Zori G. Ferkin, Esq. Mr. Thomas Gerusky Director, Penna. Emergency Management Agency Angus Love, Esq. David Wersan, Esq. Robert J. Sugarman, Esq. Martha W. Bush, Esq. Spence W. Perry, Esq. Jay M. Gutierrez, Esq. Atomic Safety & Licensing Appeal Board Atomic Safety & Licensing Board Panel Docket & Service Section (3 Copies) James Wiggins Timothy R. S. Campbell