

Commonwealth Edison Company
LaSalle Generating Station
2601 North 21st Road
Marseilles, IL 61341-9757
Tel 815-357-6761



February 16, 1995
United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Attention: Document Control Desk
Washington, D.C. 20555

Licensee Event Report #96-001-00, Docket #050-374 is being submitted to your office in accordance with 10CFR50.73 (a) (2) (i) (B).

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "D. J. Ray". The signature is fluid and cursive, written over the printed name.

D. J. Ray
Station Manager
LaSalle County Station

Enclosure

cc: H. J. Miller, NRC Region III Administrator
H. J. Simons, Acting NRC Senior Resident Inspector
IDNS Resident Inspector
F. Niziolek, IDNS Senior Reactor Analyst
INPO - Records Center
D. L. Farrar, Nuclear Regulatory Services Manager

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A Unicom Company

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LICENSEE EVENT REPORT (LER)

ESTIMATED BURDEN 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 BUDGET, WASHINGTON, DC 20503.

| | | |
|--|-------------------------------|--------------------|
| FACILITY NAME (1) LaSalle County Station Unit Two | DOCKET NUMBER (2) 05000374 | PAGE (3) 1 of 4 |
|--|-------------------------------|--------------------|

TITLE (4)
Missed Unit Two Technical Specification Fire Watch Due to Personnel Error

| EVENT DATE (5) | | | LER NUMBER (6) | | | REPORT DATE (7) | | | OTHER FACILITIES INVOLVED (8) | |
|----------------|-----|------|----------------|-------------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----|------|-------------------------------|---------------|
| MONTH | DAY | YEAR | YEAR | SEQUENTIAL NUMBER | REVISION NUMBER | MONTH | DAY | YEAR | FACILITY NAME | DOCKET NUMBER |
| 01 | 17 | 96 | 96 | 001 | 00 | 02 | 16 | 96 | None | |
| | | | | | | | | | FACILITY NAME | DOCKET NUMBER |

| | | | | | | | | | | |
|--------------------|-----|---|---|-------------------|--|---------------------|--|--|--|--|
| OPERATING MODE (9) | 1 | THIS REPORT IS SUBMITTED PURSUANT TO THE REQUIREMENTS OF 10 CFR §: (Check one or more) (11) | | | | | | | | |
| | | 20.2201(b) | | 20.2203(a)(3)(i) | | 50.73(a)(2)(iii) | | 73.71(b) | | |
| POWER LEVEL (10) | 100 | 20.2203(a)(1) | | 20.2203(a)(3)(ii) | | 50.73(a)(2)(iv) | | 73.71(c) | | |
| | | 20.2203(a)(2)(i) | | 20.2203(a)(4) | | 50.73(a)(2)(v) | | OTHER | | |
| | | 20.2203(a)(2)(ii) | | 50.36(c)(1) | | 50.73(a)(2)(vi) | | (Specify in Abstract below and in Text, NRC Form 366A) | | |
| | | 20.2203(a)(2)(iii) | | 50.36(c)(2) | | 50.73(a)(2)(vii)(A) | | | | |
| | | 20.2203(a)(2)(iv) | X | 50.73(a)(2)(i) | | 50.73(a)(2)(vii)(B) | | | | |
| | | 20.2203(a)(2)(v) | | 50.73(a)(2)(ii) | | 50.73(a)(2)(x) | | | | |

LICENSEE CONTACT FOR THIS LER (12)

| | |
|------------------------------------|---|
| NAME James Arnould , Operations | TELEPHONE NUMBER (Include Area Code) (815) 357-6761 x 2771 |
|------------------------------------|---|

COMPLETE ONE LINE FOR EACH COMPONENT FAILURE DESCRIBED IN THIS REPORT (13)

| CAUSE | SYSTEM | COMPONENT | MANUFACTURER | REPORTABLE TO NPRDS | CAUSE | SYSTEM | COMPONENT | MANUFACTURER | REPORTABLE TO NPRDS |
|-------|--------|-----------|--------------|---------------------|-------|--------|-----------|--------------|---------------------|
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|--|---|----|--|-------------------------------|--|-------|-----|------|
| SUPPLEMENTAL REPORT EXPECTED (14) | | | | EXPECTED SUBMISSION DATE (15) | | MONTH | DAY | YEAR |
| YES (If yes, complete EXPECTED SUBMISSION DATE) | X | NO | | | | | | |

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

At 1500 hours, on January 17, 1996, it was discovered that during a Technical Specification hourly fire watch surveillance (3.3.7.9.), in effect on Unit 2 Division I, II, and III Core Spray Cooling Pump (CSCS) rooms, that the Division I room was not being observed as required. During an approximate six hour period when the Division I room was not under fire watch, there were no fires in the room and no activities or conditions which could have increased the potential for a fire. At 1500 hours, a fire watch surveillance for the Division I room was established.

The cause of this event was inadequate procedural guidance and personnel errors by the WCC SRO and the Unit Supervisor.

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LICENSEE EVENT REPORT (LER)
TEXT CONTINUATION

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| | | | | | |

If more space is required, use additional copies of NRC Form 366A) (17)

PLANT AND SYSTEM IDENTIFICATION

General Electric - Boiling Water Reactor

Energy Industry Identification System (EIIS) codes are identified in the text as [XX].

A. CONDITION PRIOR TO EVENT

Unit(s): 2 Event Date: 01/17/95 Event Time: 0910 Hours

Reactor Mode(s): 1 Modes(s) Name: Run Power Level(s): 100%

B. DESCRIPTION OF EVENT

At 1500 hours, on January 17, 1996, it was discovered that during a Technical Specification hourly fire watch surveillance (3.3.7.9.), in effect on Unit 2 Division I, II, and III Core Spray Cooling Pump (CSCS) rooms, that the Division I room was not being observed as required. As part of the work for the planned replacement of watertight doors, fire impairment 016-96 was initiated by the Fire Marshal on January 15, 1996. The Fire Marshal completed sections I, II, and III of the fire impairment, clearly identifying the three zones to be surveilled and the organizations given the responsibility to perform the surveillance. Under this impairment, the dedicated fire watch group (Richardson-Estes) was informed of their expectations once fire zone 2-28 was taken out of Service (O.O.S.). Fire impairment 016-96 was initiated at 0910, on January 17, 1996, with zone 2-28 fire detectors taken out of service (OOS) in order to allow welding in Division II and III rooms. Zone 2-28 provides the fire detection capability for all three rooms. During an approximate six hour period, when the Division I room was not observed, no activities or conditions occurred which increased the potential for a fire.

Work to replace the watertight doors started at 0200 hours, on January 17, 1996. During this work, an operator was stationed in Division II room to provide a continuous fire watch and flood watch for Division II and III. The door between Division II and Division III was being removed, allowing a single operator to observe both rooms. This watch was implemented by fire impairment 13-96. When Zone 2-28 detectors were taken OOS to allow welding, an hourly fire watch for all three Divisions was required. This was to be implemented by fire impairment 016-96. Contrary to the instructions provided by the Fire Marshal, the Work Control Center Senior Reactor Operator (WCC SRO), who authorized the impairment at 0910 hours on January 17, 1996, re-assigned the responsibility for performing the hourly fire watch to the Operations Department. Since observation of Division I could not be performed from the Division II side when the watertight door to Division I was closed, this room needed to be observed from an access hatch above the room. The use of a second operator was necessary because the operator in Division II could not leave the area. The operators performing the fire watch were not informed of the requirement to observe the Division I room when they received the Fire Watch Inspection Log for fire impairment 016-96. As a result, the

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operators did not perform the hourly observation.

At approximately 1400 hours, the WCC SRO recognized that the hourly fire watch of Division I could not be performed by the operator in Division II with the watertight door closed. The Field Supervisor verified that the Division I fire watch was not being performed and notified the Unit 2 Supervisor. Operators were immediately dispatched to open the watertight door. The operators performing the fire watch were then informed of the requirement to also observe the Division I room. At 1500 hours, a fire watch surveillance for the Division I room was established.

C. CAUSE OF EVENT

The event occurred as a result of inadequate procedural guidance and personnel error by the WCC SRO and the Unit Supervisor in not complying with the compensatory measures established by the Fire Marshal, as directed in LAP 900-16, "Fire Protection Equipment and Fire Barrier Impairments", section F.3.d.2., and not communicating to the operators the full scope of the fire impairment. LAP 900-16 section F.3.e lists the requirements to establish the fire watch, inform the fire watch of its frequency and ensure that the full scope of the impairment is addressed. These were not done satisfactorily by the WCC SRO who approved the Fire Protection Impairment Permit nor the Unit Supervisor who approved the out of service for zone 2-28.

This event is reportable pursuant to 10 CFR 50.73(a)(2)(i)(B).

D. ASSESSMENT OF SAFETY CONSEQUENCES

The Fire Detection System is normally bypassed for areas in which welding or other activity is going to take place that would cause nuisance false alarms of the system. In these situations, a fire watch is established to provide for adequate detection and warning of fires which may result.

The safety significance of this event was minimal. No work was in progress in the Division I room during this event which would have increased the potential for a fire. All welding was performed in the Division II or III rooms where a continuous fire watch was maintained. If a fire had occurred in the Division I room it would be contained to this area and would not have affected the remaining two Divisions of CSCS.

E. CORRECTIVE ACTIONS

As soon as it was determined that the fire watch was not being performed on Division I, the Field Supervisor notified the operators to open the watertight door and initiate the fire watch on Division I.

The supervisors involved have been counseled concerning the need to ensure instructions are properly communicated and to verify that Technical Specification conditions are being met with regard to fire watches.

This event will be reviewed with Operating Department personnel who authorize and perform fire watches to enhance the awareness of LAP 900-16, "Fire Protection Equipment and Fire Barrier Impairments", and LAP 900-40, "Fire Watch Guidelines", requirements

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including (1) planning and completing the Fire Protection Impairment Permit, (2) initiating a fire watch, and (3) use of the Fire Watch Inspection Log.

LAP 900-16 will be enhanced to better identify the requirements of the fire impairment (e.g. areas, firewatch requirements, etc.). This revision will be accomplished by April 16, 1996.

F. PREVIOUS OCCURRENCES

LER NUMBER

TITLE

| | |
|------------|---|
| 374/95-010 | Missed Tech Spec Fire Watch Due to Personnel Error |
| 373-95-011 | Missed Technical Specification Fire Watch |
| 374/95-004 | Fire Watch Not Established Within Hourly Limit |
| 374/95-002 | Fire Watch Not Started Per Technical Specifications |

G. COMPONENT FAILURE DATA

Since no component failure occurred, this section is not applicable