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Alabama Power

the southern electric system

October 2, 1978

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U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Office of Inspection and Enforcement
Region II
101 Marietta Street, N.W.
Suite 3100
Atlanta, Georgia 30303

Dear Sir:

Joseph M. Farley Nuclear Plant, Unit 1, Licensee Event Report No. LER 78-062/01T-0 is forwarded herewith, with three (3) copies each, in accordance with FNP Technical Specification 6.9 to provide fourteen (14) day written notification of the occurrence.

If you have any questions, please advise.

Yours truly,


F. L. Clayton, Jr.

FLCJr/TNE:bhj

Enclosures

cc: Director, IE (40 copies)
Director, MIPC (3 copies)✓

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ALABAMA POWER COMPANY
JOSEPH M. FARLEY NUCLEAR PLANT
DOCKET NO. 50-348
ATTACHMENT TO LER 78-062/01T-0

Facility: Joseph M. Farley Unit 1

Report Date: 10/2/78

Event Date: 9/22/78

Identification of Event

Main feedwater line lateral seismic restraint FW-R49 was not in place.

Conditions Prior to Event

The unit was in Mode 5 for a scheduled maintenance outage.

Description of Event

On September 19, 1978, during an inspection of Class I and II pipe restraints and snubbers by Teledyne/Bechtel/SCSI personnel as part of an NRC staff evaluation, it was noted that main feedwater line lateral seismic restraint FW-R49 was not in place. A review of on-site documentation was initiated to determine if the restraint had been deleted or relocated. This review indicated that the restraint was in place prior to December 16, 1976. It was not determined when the restraint was removed. Concurrent with the documentation search, a preliminary seismic evaluation was performed by Bechtel. This evaluation indicated that the system may perform satisfactorily without the restraint. Bechtel stated that a more rigorous evaluation would have to be performed to verify this.

On September 21, 1978, Bechtel/SCSI notified the plant staff that the restraint was missing and that no authorization could be located for its removal. Further conversation with SCSI on September 22, 1978, indicated that a detailed evaluation concerning the need for this restraint would take one to three weeks. Based on this estimate, the Plant Manager notified the NRC of a possible condition as described in Technical Specification 6.9.1.8.i. Work was initiated to reinstall the missing restraint.

On September 25, 1978, the Plant Operations Review Committee met to discuss the missing restraint. Present at the meeting were representatives of Bechtel, Daniel Construction Co. and Alabama Power Company Construction, Construction Quality Assurance, and Startup. All information relative to the incident was reviewed. The PORC recommended that all accessible Class I and II hangers/restraints on safety related portions of main steam, main feedwater and auxiliary feedwater piping located in the main steam and feedwater valve room and selected hangers/restraints in other areas of the auxiliary

building and containment be inspected to verify the installation of pipe hangers/restraints. In addition to the main steam and feedwater valve room, selected portions of the following piping systems were inspected in the auxiliary and containment buildings: main steam, feedwater, pressurizer spray, letdown, residual heat removal, high head safety injection/charging, safety injection/accumulator. Approximately 190 pipe hangers/restraints were inspected. That inspection, conducted in accordance with FNP-1-ETP-74, Pipe Hanger/Restraint Investigation Procedure on September 27, 1978 while still in Mode 5, failed to show any additional missing hangers/restraints.

Concurrent with the above noted inspection a further review of construction documentation was conducted. No evidence was found to indicate that removal of the restraint was authorized, nor was information found to indicate when or why the restraint was removed.

Reinstallation of restraint FW-R49 was completed on September 26, 1978.

Designation of Apparent Cause

The apparent cause could not be determined.

Analysis of Event

The unit was in Mode 5, cold shutdown, at the time of discovery. A preliminary seismic evaluation performed by Bechtel indicated that the system may have performed satisfactorily without the restraint. The restraint was reinstalled prior to leaving Mode 5. An inspection of selected hangers/restraints showed no others missing. Based on this inspection, this condition is considered to be singular in nature.

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

Effect on Plant

This occurrence had no significant effect on plant operations.

Corrective Action

As noted above, the missing restraint was reinstalled.

Failure Data

None