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ILLINOIS POWER COMPANY



CLINTON POWER STATION, P.O. BOX 678, CLINTON, ILLINOIS 61727

10CFR50.36
August 22, 1988

PRIORITY ROUTING

First	Second
MA	RC
DPA	ETC
DRP	SGA
DRS	ML
DRSS	OL
DRNA	OI
	PAO

FILE 102

Docket No. 50-461

Mr. A. B. Davis
Regional Administrator
Re, ion III
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
799 Roosevelt Road
Glen Ellyn, Illinois 60137

Subject: Special Report: Extended Inoperability of the HVAC Stack High Range Radioactivity Monitor

Dear Mr. Davis:

CPS Technical Specification 3.3.7.5 (Accident Monitoring Instrumentation) establishes operability requirements for the HVAC Stack High Range Radioactivity Monitor, and in addition, prescribes the action to be taken if the monitor becomes inoperable. On August 3, 1988, this monitor was declared inoperable. Although efforts to repair the monitor began immediately, the monitor was not returned to operable status within 72 hours as required by ACTION 81 of Table 3.3.7.5-1 in the Clinton Technical Specifications.

ACTION 81 states that if the monitor is not restored to operable status within 72 hours, a Special Report must be prepared and submitted to the Commission pursuant to Specification 6.9.2 ("Special Reports") within 14 days following the event. This report must outline the action taken, the cause of the inoperability and the plans and schedule for restoring the system to operable status. This report is therefore submitted accordingly. The Event Summary that follows provides the required information.

Event Summary

Although preparatory work had begun the evening of 8/2/88, the monitor was initially declared inoperable at 1020 during the day shift on August 3, 1988 as work was underway to perform the routine channel calibration. (This calibration is performed at least once every 18 months.) The channel calibration, which is quite extensive due to the complexity of this monitor,* usually takes several shifts to complete.

* The HVAC monitor has six channels associated with it; other appurtenances include a flow switch and flow measurement instrumentation, computer points providing signals to the central control terminals and the safety parameter display system, and the associated detectors. A complete calibration necessitates taking the monitor out-of-service even for work performed on the non-Technical Specification related portions of the monitor.

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As testing progressed, a number of problems were encountered which delayed satisfactory completion of the calibration:

- (1) The surveillance procedure used to perform the calibration had been completely revised earlier this year. As the calibration was performed, some technical problems with the new procedure were discovered which necessitated minor but time-consuming changes.
- (2) Problems with computer points associated with the monitor were encountered. The additional adjustments (to the analog-to-digital converter cards) necessitated keeping the monitor out-of-service longer.
- (3) The acceptance criteria for the calibration of the detector could not be met. Time was lost while investigating the problem. It was eventually determined that the detector was bad and had to be replaced.

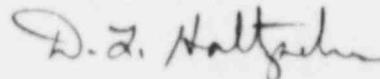
These problems are not unusual, but when incurred together, they caused the time needed to complete the calibration to exceed the 72 hours allowed for the monitor to be out-of-service.

The monitor was restored to operable status during the day shift on 8/6/88. The total time taken to restore it to operable status was approximately 77 hours (5 hours in excess of the allowed out-of-service time).

A plant condition report has been initiated to further investigate the calibration delays and to determine what can be done to prevent recurrence of this condition. It should be noted that the calibration could be performed during shutdown conditions when the monitor is not required to be operable. The investigation required for the plant condition report should determine whether or not the calibration schedule should be adjusted so that the calibration coincides with the refueling outages.

If you have any comments or questions regarding this event, please contact me.

Sincerely yours,



D. L. Holtzsch
Acting Manager - Licensing and
Safety

TBE/ckc

cc: NRC Clinton Licensing Project Manager
NRC Resident Office
Illinois Department of Nuclear Safety