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LICENSEE EVENT REPORT (LER) TEXT CONTINUATION

U.S. NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION APPROVED OMB NO 3150-0104

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Description of Event

AC Form 366A

On April 21, 1988, the Plant was in Mode 6 (refueling) with Reactor Coolant System temperature at 108°F. The reactor vessel water level was at 62 feet (just above the top of the loops) for maintenance, and the reactor head vent path was open. The Containment Purge Supply and Exhaust Systems were in operation. While raising reactor vessel water level to 62.5 feet to prepare for reactor vessel flood-up, a Containment ventilation isolation was initiated at 0345 by a high Containment radioactivity signal from the Containment Low Level Noble Gas Monitor (PRM-1C). The Containment Purge System isolation valves closed as required. Upon receipt of the Containment ventilation isolation signal, the operators stopped increasing reactor vessel water level. Gaseous activity in Containment returned to normal soon after the level increase was stopped. Increasing reactor vessel water level forced gases out of the reactor vessel and into Containment, thus, increasing Containment gaseous activity levels sufficiently to initiate the isolation signal. It is estimated that 0.3 curies of Xenon-133 were released.

Cause of Occurrence

The increase in Containment gaseous activity was caused by gases being forced out of the reactor vessel and into Containment when reactor vessel water level was increased. The PRM-1C setpoint of </= 2 times background required by Trojan Technical Specifications was based on the activity level in the Containment atmosphere.

Corrective Action

Immediate corrective action was to stop raising reactor vessel water level to stop the increase in Containment gaseous activity. A temporary procedure was implemented that provided for educting gases from the reactor vessel via the head vent and directing them to the Refueling Cavity Exhaust System. This allowed the gases to be directed to a monitored exhaust path and minimized the increase in general Containment activity levels. The method for establishing the PRM-1C setpoint was revised to incorporate a more representative determination of background activity level when a release is planned. Calculation of the initial setpoint is now based on the methods prescribed in the Offsite Dose Calculation Manual as allowed by Trojan Technical Specifications. No further problems with high Containment gaseous activity levels were experienced while raising reactor vessel water level.

Significance of Occurrence

This event had no effect on public health and safety. The Containment Ventilation Isolation System functioned as designed.



Portland General Electric Company Trojan Nuclear Plant 71760 Columbia River Hwy Rainier, Oregon 97048 (503) 556-3713

May 20, 1988 CAO-217-88

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

Gentlemen:

Licensee Event Report No. 88-10 is attached. This report discusses an event in which Containment ventilation isolation was initiated by a high Containment gaseous activity signal.

Sincerely,

C. a. Olmatias

C. A. Olmstead General Manager Trojan Nuclear Plant

c: Mr. John B. Martin Regional Administrator US Nuclear Regulatory Commission

> Mr. William Dixon State of Oregon Department of Energy

Mr. R. C. Barr USNRC Resident Inspector Trojan Nuclear Plant

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