

LICENSEE EVENT REPORT (LER)

(See reverse for required number of digits/characters for each block)

Estimated burden per response to comply with this mandatory information collection request: 50 hrs. Reported lessons learned are incorporated into the licensing process and fed back to industry. Forward comments regarding burden estimate to the Records Management Branch (T-6 F33), 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. If an information collection does not display a currently valid OMB control number, the NRC may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, the information

FACILITY NAME (1)

South Texas, Unit 1

DOCKET NUMBER (2)

05000 498

PAGE (3)

1 of 4

TITLE (4)

Failure to Perform Quarterly Surveillance on Turbine-Driven Auxiliary Feedwater Pump

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
09	15	98	98	007	00	10	14	98	South Texas, Unit 2	05000 499
										05000

THIS REPORT IS SUBMITTED PURSUANT TO THE REQUIREMENTS OF 10 CFR §: (Check one or more) (11)

OPERATING MODE (9)	1	20.2201(b)	20.2203(a)(2)(v)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	50.73(a)(2)(i)	50.73(a)(2)(viii)
POWER LEVEL (10)	100	20.2203(a)(1)	20.2203(a)(3)(i)		50.73(a)(2)(ii)	50.73(a)(2)(x)
		20.2203(a)(2)(i)	20.2203(a)(3)(ii)		50.73(a)(2)(iii)	73.71
		20.2203(a)(2)(ii)	20.2203(a)(4)		50.73(a)(2)(iv)	OTHER
		20.2203(a)(2)(iii)	50.36(c)(1)		50.73(a)(2)(v)	Specify in Abstract below or in NRC Form 366A
20.2203(a)(2)(iv)	50.36(c)(2)		50.73(a)(2)(vii)			

LICENSEE CONTACT FOR THIS LER (12)

NAME

Scott Head - Licensing Supervisor

TELEPHONE NUMBER (Include Area Code)

(512) 972-7136

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

CAUSE	SYSTEM	COMPONENT	MANUFACTURER	REPORTABLE TO EPIX	CAUSE	SYSTEM	COMPONENT	MANUFACTURER	REPORTABLE TO EPIX

SUPPLEMENTAL REPORT EXPECTED (14)

YES (If yes, complete EXPECTED SUBMISSION DATE). NO

EXPECTED SUBMISSION DATE (15)

MONTH DAY YEAR

ABSTRACT (Limit to 1400 spaces, i.e., approximately 15 single-spaced typewritten lines) (16)

On September 15, 1998, Units 1 and 2 were operating at 100% power. During a review of surveillances of the Unit 1 turbine-driven Auxiliary Feedwater Pump, the system engineer discovered that the quarterly inservice test had not been performed on July 9, 1998, as scheduled and required by procedure. The previous inservice test of this pump was performed on April 14, 1998. ASME IWP-3400 states that the frequency for inservice testing for pumps is three months during normal operation. The allowed grace period expired on August 9, 1998. Technical Specification 4.0.5 requires inservice testing of this pump in accordance with Section XI of the ASME Boiler and Pressure Vessel Code and applicable addenda as required by 10CFR50.55a(g). Pursuant to Technical Specification 4.0.3 for failure to perform a surveillance requirement within the allowed surveillance interval, the pump did not meet operability requirements from August 9, 1998, until the quarterly surveillance was completed satisfactorily on September 15, 1998. The cause was inadequate on-shift surveillance test preparation. A checklist will be developed for surveillance preparation, performance, and review requirements of the surveillance testing process. The Shift Turnover Checklist will be revised. Additional training has been provided.

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

DESCRIPTION OF EVENT:

On September 15, 1998, Units 1 and 2 were operating at 100% power. During a review of surveillance trend data for the Unit 1 turbine-driven Auxiliary Feedwater Pump, the system engineer discovered that the quarterly inservice test had not been performed on July 9, 1998, as scheduled and required by procedure. The previous inservice test of this pump was performed on April 14, 1998.

The procedure for testing the turbine-driven Auxiliary Feedwater Pump includes requirements for monthly and quarterly tests. The monthly test is an operability test; the quarterly inservice test provides pump performance data for pressure, temperature, and vibration for a more detailed determination of pump operational status.

The assigned Test Coordinator was provided with the surveillance package for the Unit 1 turbine-driven Auxiliary Feedwater Pump surveillances to be performed. There were four pairs of Surveillance Test Scheduling Sheets and Test Completion Notification sheets in the package. Three were for the monthly surveillance and one was for the quarterly surveillance. In preparing the sheets, the Test Coordinator did not identify that one pair of the assigned task numbers was associated with a quarterly surveillance; as a result, the sections of the surveillance procedure addressing the quarterly surveillance were incorrectly marked as being not applicable. The test results were reviewed and approved with the understanding that the completed surveillance was a monthly surveillance. However, because the Test Coordinator signed all of the Test Completion Notification sheets as being completed, including the one for the quarterly surveillance, the quarterly surveillance was subsequently tracked as having been completed. The error was not caught despite review by the Unit Supervisor, the Operations Divisional Surveillance Coordinator, the Section XI engineer, and the system engineer.

The missed surveillance was identified by the system engineer during trending of information resulting from later pump surveillance tests. The database used for recording the trending data did not specify the reason for performing the test. The system engineer determined that the quarterly surveillance test had not been performed when he identified that no pump vibration data had been recorded since July 9, 1998. Vibration readings are required for the quarterly surveillance test.

ASME IWP-3400 states that the frequency for inservice testing for pumps is normally three months during normal operation. Although a 25% extension of the period between tests is available, the allowed grace period expired on August 9, 1998. Technical Specification 4.0.5 requires inservice testing of this pump in accordance with Section XI of the ASME Boiler and Pressure Vessel Code and applicable addenda as required by 10CFR50.55a(g). Pursuant to Technical Specification 4.0.3 for failure to perform a surveillance requirement within the allowed surveillance interval, the pump did not meet operability requirements from August 9, 1998, until the quarterly surveillance was completed satisfactorily on September 15, 1998.

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CAUSE OF EVENT:

The cause of this event was inadequate on-shift surveillance test preparation. During surveillance test procedure preparation, the Test Coordinator did not identify the requirement for performing the quarterly surveillance and subsequently entered "N/A" in the corresponding sections of the procedure used to perform the quarterly surveillance. This led to only covering the monthly surveillance test in the pre-job briefing. Supervisory involvement throughout the preparation phase was not in-line with management expectations.

The Test Coordinator did not correctly follow the surveillance documentation provided in the surveillance test package which indicated that the quarterly surveillance was required to be performed on the turbine-driven Auxiliary Feedwater Pump. This resulted in: test procedure sections for the quarterly surveillance being marked as not applicable; pre-job brief for only the monthly surveillances; performance of only the monthly surveillances; and the test completion sheet for the quarterly surveillance being incorrectly signed off as complete.

ANALYSIS OF EVENT:

Failure to perform a surveillance requirement as required by Technical Specifications is reportable pursuant to 10CFR50.73(a)(2)(i)(B). Technical Specification 4.0.5 requires inservice testing of this pump in accordance with Section XI of the ASME Boiler and Pressure Vessel Code and applicable addenda as required by 10CFR50.55a(g). The quarterly surveillance requirements of ASME IWP-3400 were not met for this pump. Pursuant to Technical Specification 4.0.3 for failure to perform a surveillance requirement within the allowed surveillance interval, the pump did not meet operability requirements from August 9, 1998, until the quarterly surveillance was completed satisfactorily on September 15, 1998. However, there were no adverse safety or radiological consequences as a result of this event.

CORRECTIVE ACTIONS:

The following corrective actions have been or will be taken as a result of this condition:

1. Quarterly surveillance of the Unit 1 turbine-driven Auxiliary Feedwater Pump was successfully performed on September 15, 1998, and the pump was declared operable.
2. The event was discussed with engineering personnel involved in the event.
3. The Operations Divisional Surveillance Coordinator, and the Test Coordinator and Unit Supervisor involved in the event have been counseled.

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4. A checklist will be developed for surveillance test preparation, performance, and review requirements of the surveillance testing process. Implementation is expected by November 5, 1998.
5. A shift training brief of the incident has been presented to Operations personnel covering the following:
 - The results of the investigation of this incident
 - Surveillance test procedure preparation and performance process
 - Surveillance review requirements
6. The Shift Turnover Checklist will be revised to require the Unit Supervisor and the Reactor Operator to review the surveillance schedule prior to assuming the shift. This is expected to be completed by November 26, 1998.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

The South Texas Project has submitted two other Licensee Event Reports in the past three years regarding occurrences where Section XI ASME Code testing requirements pursuant to Technical Specification 4.0.5 were not met.

- Unit 1 Licensee Event Report 96-002 addressed an occurrence in which the testing frequency for Essential Chilled Water Pump 11A was not increased when the alert range for a measured performance parameter was entered.
- Unit 1 Licensee Event Report 98-006 addressed an occurrence in which tests of containment isolation check valves did not include the required safety function position within the required testing cycle.