NRC Form 366
(9-83)

U.S. NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
APPROVED OMB NO. 3150-0104
EXPIRES: 8/31/85

LICENSEE EVENT REPORT (LER)

FACILITY NAME (1)	DOCKET NUMBER (2)	PAGE (3)
Virgil C. Summer Nuclear Station	0 5 0 0 0 3 9 5	1 OF 0 4

TITLE (4)
Failure to Establish Fire Watch for Relay Room 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 NAMES	DOCKET NUMBER(S)
0 4	2 6	8 8	8 8	0 0 5	0 0	0 5	2 6	8 8		0 5 0 0 0
										0 5 0 0 0

OPERATING MODE (9)	1	THIS REPORT IS SUBMITTED PURSUANT TO THE REQUIREMENTS OF 10 CFR §: (Check one or more of the following) (11)			
POWER LEVEL (10)	1 0 0	20.402(b)	20.405(c)	50.73(a)(2)(iv)	73.71(b)
		20.405(a)(1)(i)	50.38(c)(1)	50.73(a)(2)(v)	73.71(c)
		20.405(a)(1)(ii)	50.38(c)(2)	50.73(a)(2)(vii)	OTHER (Specify in Abstract below and in Text, NRC Form 366A)
		20.405(a)(1)(iii)	X 50.73(a)(2)(i)	50.73(a)(2)(viii)(A)	
		20.405(a)(1)(iv)	50.73(a)(2)(ii)	50.73(a)(2)(viii)(B)	
		20.405(a)(1)(v)	50.73(a)(2)(iii)	50.73(a)(2)(x)	

LICENSEE CONTACT FOR THIS LER (12)

NAME	TELEPHONE NUMBER
	AREA CODE
W. R. Higgins, Supervisor, Regulatory Compliance	8 0 3 3 4 5 - 4 0 4 2

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	

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 approximately 0715 hours on April 26, 1988, the oncoming Operations' Shift Supervisor identified that a continuous fire watch with backup fire suppression equipment had not been established for the Relay Room as required by Technical Specification 3.7.9.3.a. The requirements of this Action Statement should have been implemented at 0635 hours following isolation of the CO_2 system, which provides fire protection for the Relay Room equipment.

The cause of this event was an inadequate review of paperwork due to personnel error. The consequences were minimal since the duration of the noncompliance was approximately 50 minutes and an hourly fire watch patrol routinely inspected the area.

The following corrective actions were initiated as a result of this event:

1. Effective May 13, 1988, Scheduling personnel discontinued assigning Removal and Restoration numbers to paperwork. Control Room personnel will perform this function in the future.

2. Involved personnel are to review this incident with each Operations shift by July 10, 1988.

3. Operations will establish an improved interface with the on-shift Fire Protection Officer for the review of fire service related paperwork by June 15, 1988.

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

PLANT IDENTIFICATION:

Westinghouse - Pressurized Water Reactor

EQUIPMENT IDENTIFICATION:

Fire Service System - EIIS-KP

IDENTIFICATION OF EVENT:

At approximately 0715 hours on April 26, 1988, the oncoming Operations' Shift Supervisor identified that a continuous fire watch with backup fire suppression equipment had not been established for the Relay Room as required by Technical Specification 3.7.9.3.a. The requirements of this Action Statement should have been implemented within one hour (0635 hours) following isolation of the CO_2 system, which provides fire protection for the Relay Room equipment.

EVENT DATE:

April 26, 1988

REPORT DATE: May 26, 1988

This report was initiated by Off-Normal Occurrence Number 88-021.

PREVIOUS SIMILAR EVENTS:

LER 85-018, dated August 23, 1985
LER 87-018, dated August 27, 1987

CONDITIONS PRIOR TO EVENT:

Mode 1 - Reactor Power 100%

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

DESCRIPTION OF EVENT:

On April 25, 1988, Fire Protection Services personnel contacted the Operations representative in Scheduling to coordinate a tagout of the CO_2 system for the performance of a surveillance test. Scheduling was told at this time that the tags should not be hung prior to the test groups arrival on the following day so that they could provide the continuous fire watch with backup fire suppression equipment as required by the Technical Specifications.

During Scheduling review of the paperwork, a Removal and Restoration (R&R) number 870831 was observed on the Surveillance Test Task Sheet for the test. R&R's are used at the Virgil C. Summer Nuclear Station to denote when a safety system or component is removed from service. Scheduling contacted the Control Room Supervisor and verified that the R&R was active, however, he failed to confirm that the R&R specifically addressed the CO_2 system or if any additional actions were required by Technical Specifications.

The active R&R was actually against the Integrated Fire Computer System (IFCS) which had been removed from service on December 29, 1987, due to erratic operation. This system's inoperability affected Control Room alarms and was reported in Special Reports dated January 28 and March 22, 1988 under the requirements of Technical Specification 3.3.3.7.a, "Fire Detector Instrumentation." A roving fire watch was established due to this inoperability and remained in effect until May 6, 1988.

Scheduling associated the tagout to the existing R&R and forwarded the work package to the Control Room without noting the request of the Fire Protection Services group that the tags should not be hung until the following day shift. The Duty Shift Supervisor gave the tagout to the tagging desk operator at approximately 0400 hours on April 26, 1988 and directed him to initiate the necessary paperwork for the tagout.

The tagging desk operator noticed the R&R number already on the tagout package and went to the Control Room to verify that the R&R was active. The Control Room Supervisor verified the active status and told the operator that the R&R was against the IFCS Panel. The tagging desk operator knew that the test associated with the tagout was a retest and, therefore, considered the tagout to be covered under the existing R&R. The tagout, which was hung and verified at approximately 0535 hours, rendered the Relay Room CO_2 fire suppression system inoperable with a roving (hourly) fire watch as the only established compensatory action.

At approximately 0715 hours the oncoming Shift Supervisor noticed that the CO_2 system had been tagged out and questioned if a continuous fire watch with backup fire suppression equipment had been established. On discovery that the fire watch had not been established, the Shift Supervisor dispatched the Fire Protection Officer (FPO) with directions to establish the fire watch. The continuous fire watch with backup fire suppression equipment was established at approximately 0725 hours. The rooms were not compensated, as required by Technical Specification 3.7.9.3.a, "CO_2 System," for a period of approximately 50 minutes.

CAUSE OF EVENT:

The event was due to Operations personnel errors resulting from a lack of attention to detail. The involved personnel failed to do an adequate review of the paperwork during the performance of the system tagout to ensure compliance with the action statement of Technical Specification 3.7.9.3.a.

ANALYSIS OF EVENT:

The consequences due to this event were minimal. The duration of the non-compliance was approximately 50 minutes and an hourly fire watch patrol routinely inspected the area.

CORRECTIVE ACTION:

A Management Review Board (MRB) meeting, chaired by the Director, Nuclear Plant Operations, was convened on April 28, 1988, to review this event. As a result of the MRB meeting, the following corrective actions were identified and initiated in response to this incident:

1. Scheduling discontinued assigning R&R numbers to paperwork on May 13, 1988. Control room personnel will perform this function to ensure appropriate actions are taken during the removal from service of plant systems.

2. The personnel involved in the Technical Specification noncompliance will review the incident with each Operations shift by July 10, 1988. This review will emphasize the need for attention to detail during paperwork review.

3. Operations will establish an improved interface with the on-shift FPO for the review of fire service related paperwork by June 15, 1988. The FPO position was previously established (March 28, 1988) at V. C. Summer Nuclear Station to provide added attention to the daily fire protection activities and allow single point accountability regarding fire protection. The additional involvement with Operations paperwork will increase the FPO's knowledge of all fire service activities and provide another line of defense on Fire Service problems.

10CFR50.73

SCE&G
A SCANA Company

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Dan A. Nauman
Vice President
Nuclear Operations

May 26, 1988

Document Control Desk
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, DC 20555

SUBJECT: Virgil C. Summer Nuclear Station
Docket No. 50/395
Operating License No. NPF-12
LER 88-005

Gentlemen:

Attached is Licensee Event Report No. 88-005 for the Virgil C. Summer Nuclear Station. This report is submitted pursuant to the requirements of 10CFR50.73(a)(2)(i).

Should there be any questions, please call us at your convenience.

Very truly yours,

D. A. Nauman

CJM/DAN:lcd
Attachment

pc: J. G. Connelly, Jr./O. W. Dixon, Jr./T. C. Nichols, Jr.
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W. A. Williams, Jr.
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