

LICENSEE EVENT REPORT (LER)

FACILITY NAME (1) Oconee Nuclear Station, Unit 2	DOCKET NUMBER (2) 0 5 0 0 0 2 7 0	PAGE (3) 1 OF 0 1 3
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TITLE (4)
Fire Watch Patrol Not Established While Fire Detector String Was Operable

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)
11	05	85	85	007	01	05	21	86			0 5 0 0 0
											0 5 0 0 0

OPERATING MODE (9) POWER LEVEL (10) 11010	THIS REPORT IS SUBMITTED PURSUANT TO THE REQUIREMENTS OF 10 CFR § (Check one or more of the following) (11)										
	<input type="checkbox"/> 20.402(b)	<input type="checkbox"/> 20.406(c)	<input type="checkbox"/> 50.73(a)(2)(iv)	<input type="checkbox"/> 73.71(b)							
	<input type="checkbox"/> 20.406(a)(1)(i)	<input type="checkbox"/> 50.38(c)(1)	<input type="checkbox"/> 50.73(a)(2)(v)	<input type="checkbox"/> 73.71(c)							
	<input type="checkbox"/> 20.406(a)(1)(ii)	<input type="checkbox"/> 50.28(c)(2)	<input type="checkbox"/> 50.73(a)(2)(vii)	OTHER (Specify in Abstract below and in Text, NRC Form 366A)							
	<input type="checkbox"/> 20.406(a)(1)(iii)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 50.73(a)(2)(i)	<input type="checkbox"/> 50.73(a)(2)(viii)(A)								
	<input type="checkbox"/> 20.406(a)(1)(iv)	<input type="checkbox"/> 50.73(a)(2)(ii)	<input type="checkbox"/> 50.73(a)(2)(viii)(B)								
	<input type="checkbox"/> 20.406(a)(1)(v)	<input type="checkbox"/> 50.73(a)(2)(iii)	<input type="checkbox"/> 50.73(a)(2)(x)								

LICENSEE CONTACT FOR THIS LER (12)						TELEPHONE NUMBER					
NAME W. H. McDowell, Licensing						AREA CODE					
						7104 3173 - 188178					

COMPLETE ONE LINE FOR EACH COMPONENT FAILURE DESCRIBED IN THIS REPORT (13)										
CAUSE	SYSTEM	COMPONENT	MANUFACTURER	REPORTABLE TO NPDOS	CAUSE	SYSTEM	COMPONENT	MANUFACTURER	REPORTABLE TO NPDOS	

SUPPLEMENTAL REPORT EXPECTED (14)				EXPECTED SUBMISSION DATE (15)		MONTH	DAY	YEAR
<input type="checkbox"/> YES (If yes, complete EXPECTED SUBMISSION DATE)				<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO				

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

On November 5, 1985, at 0800 hours, it was discovered that fire detectors in the East Penetration Room were inoperable for greater than one hour, without a fire watch patrol of the area performed as required by Technical Specification 3.17.1.

The cause of the incident was determined to be the lack of guidance of fire detector string operability in Station Directive 4.2.3, "Reporting of Fire Protection Impairment".

Immediate corrective action was to establish a fire watch patrol, and repair the defective fire detector. Planned corrective actions include revision of Station Directive, revision of operator training procedures, and a review of the investigation report by appropriate personnel.

Although a fire watch patrol of the East Penetration Room was not established as required, the West Penetration Room independently contains the necessary equipment and instrumentation to support the systems necessary to place the unit in a safe shutdown condition. Therefore, the health and safety of the public were not affected.

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LICENSEE EVENT REPORT (LER) TEXT CONTINUATION

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		8 5	- 0 0 7	- 0 1	0 2	OF	0 3

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

DESCRIPTION OF OCCURRENCE

On November 5, 1985, at 0350 hours, with Unit 2 at 100% full power, the fire statalarm was annunciated in the Unit 1 & 2 Control Room from a fire detector in the Unit 2 East Penetration Room. After patrolling the affected fire zone and reviewing appropriate Fire Protection Administrative Guidelines, it was concluded that there was no fire and that the Unit 2 East Penetration Room fire detector string was operable; therefore, an hourly fire watch patrol was not required.

After additional review by the relieving Operations shift, the alarm fire detector string in the East Penetration Room was determined to have been inoperable for greater than one hour without establishing a fire watch patrol. This violated Technical Specification 3.17.1.

CAUSE OF OCCURRENCE

The root cause of this event was the Station Directive 4.2.3 which provided guidance on the number of operable fire detectors versus defective fire detectors, but does not provide a statement about fire detector string reflash capability if a fire detector(s) become inoperable.

A contributing cause to the violation of Technical Specification 3.17 was an inadequate operator training procedure. In reviewing Fire Protection System training procedures, it was discovered that the procedure does not specifically identify that if a fire detector(s) in a string goes into alarm, and stays in alarm, then the remaining fire detectors in that string do not have statalarm (reflash) capability.

A review of past incident reports revealed five Incident Investigation reports involving failed fire detectors dating from November 14, 1979 to December 20, 1980. In each of these incident reports, a fire watch patrol was initiated after the fire detector failure. Fire detector failures are recurring events, but a failure to initiate a fire watch patrol is not a recurring event.

CORRECTIVE ACTION

The immediate corrective action was to establish an hourly fire watch patrol of the Unit 2 East Penetration Room. Also, a Priority One Work Request was written to repair the defective fire detector.

Planned corrective actions include:

- (1) Revision of the Station Directive to assist Operations personnel in determining when fire zones have reflash capability.

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

- (2) Revision of Operation training procedure so that Operations personnel will be properly instructed on the reflash capabilities of fire detection strings.
- (3) The investigation report will be reviewed by appropriate Operations personnel.

ANALYSIS OF OCCURRENCE

Either the Unit 2 East Penetration Room or the Unit 2 West Penetration Room independently contains the necessary equipment and instrumentation to support the systems necessary to place the unit in a safe shutdown condition. Also, the West Penetration Room is effectively protected from the adjacent East Penetration Room by a 3-hour fire barrier. The 3-hour fire barrier is sufficient to protect the Standby Shutdown Facility cables outside containment in the West Penetration Room. If a fire had occurred in the Unit 2 East Penetration Room while the fire detector string was inoperable, the unit could be placed in a safe shutdown condition with the existing plant systems in the Unit 2 West Penetration Room and/or the Standby Shutdown Facility.

Therefore, the health and safety of the public were not affected.

DUKE POWER COMPANY
P.O. BOX 33189
CHARLOTTE, N.C. 28242

TELEPHONE
(704) 373-4531

HAL B. TUCKER
VICE PRESIDENT
NUCLEAR PRODUCTION

May 21, 1986

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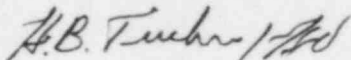
Subject: Oconee Nuclear Station
Docket Nos. 50-269, -270, -287
LER 270/85-07, Revision 1

Gentlemen:

Pursuant to 10 CFR 50.73 Sections (a) (1) and (d), attached is a revision to Licensee Event Report 270/85-07 which was dated December 4, 1985 and concerned a fire watch patrol that was not established while a fire detector string was inoperable.

This report is submitted in accordance with §50.73(a)(2)(1). This event was considered to be of no significance with respect to the health and safety of the public.

Very truly yours,



Hal B. Tucker

WHM:slb

Attachment

xc: Dr. J. Nelson Grace, Regional Administrator
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Region II
101 Marietta Street, NW, Suite 2900
Atlanta, Georgia 30323

Ms. Helen Pattis
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, D. C. 20555

Mr. J. C. Bryant
NRC Resident Inspector
Oconee Nuclear Station

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May 21, 1986
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M&M Nuclear Consultants
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New York, New York 10020