

Diablo Canyon 2

3Q/2011 Plant Inspection Findings

Initiating Events

Mitigating Systems

Significance:  Sep 25, 2011

Identified By: NRC

Item Type: NCV NonCited Violation

Failure to Maintain a Fire Barrier

The inspectors identified a noncited violation of Diablo Canyon Facility Operating License Condition 2.C (4), "Fire Protection," after the licensee failed to maintain the integrity of a fire barrier. On July 21, 2011, the inspectors identified that Fire Door B43-2, entrance to the Residual Heat Removal Pump Room 2-2, was inoperable. Equipment Control Guideline 18.7, "Fire Rated Assemblies," required the licensee to maintain the fire barrier in the rated configuration or establish prescribed compensatory actions. The door was held open due to Auxiliary Building ventilation flow balance problems. The ventilation problems had affected the fire door since January 12, 2011. The inspectors performed an extent of condition evaluation and identified eight additional fire doors impacted by the flow balance problems. The licensee took immediate action to restore the fire door to the rated condition and entered the problem into the corrective action programs as Notification 50416374.

The inspectors concluded that the failure of the licensee to maintain a fire door in the rated configuration was a performance deficiency. This finding was more than minor because the degraded fire barrier affected the Mitigating Systems Cornerstone external factors attribute objective to prevent undesirable consequences due to fire. The inspectors concluded that the finding was of very low safety significance (Green) because the licensee had maintained an automatic full area water-based fire suppression system in the exposed fire area. This finding had a crosscutting aspect in the area of problem identification and resolution, associated with the corrective action program component, because the licensee did not take timely corrective actions to correct Auxiliary Building ventilation flow balance issues.

Inspection Report# : [2011004](#) (*pdf*)

Significance:  Sep 25, 2011

Identified By: NRC

Item Type: NCV NonCited Violation

Failure to Perform Surveillances on Fire Barriers

The inspectors identified a noncited violation of Diablo Canyon Facility Operating License Condition 2.C (4), "Fire Protection," after the licensee failed to identify and correct the failure to perform required surveillance testing on fire-rated assemblies. On August 16, 2011, the inspectors identified that the licensee had not performed Equipment Control Guideline 18.7, "Fire Rated Assemblies," surveillance testing on Fire Door 329-2, entrance to the 125VDC Battery 2-1 Room, and Fire Door 332-2, entrance to the 125VDC Battery 2-2 Room, within the required frequency. The inspectors also identified that both fire doors were degraded and did not meet the surveillance acceptance criteria. The licensee implemented the required compensatory actions for both fire doors and entered this finding into the corrective action program as Notification 50409975.

The inspectors concluded that the failure of the licensee to perform required surveillance tests on fire-rated assemblies was a performance deficiency. This finding was more than minor because the degraded fire barrier affected the Mitigating Systems Cornerstone external factors attribute objective to prevent undesirable consequences due to fire. The inspectors concluded that the finding was of very low safety significance (Green) because the exposed fire areas did not contain any potential damage targets unique from those in the exposing fire area. This finding had a

crosscutting aspect in the area of problem identification and resolution associated with the corrective action program component because the licensee did not adequately prioritize and perform an extent of condition review of previous problems associated with excluding fire barriers from the Equipment Control Guideline requirements.

Inspection Report# : [2011004](#) (pdf)

Significance:  Jun 26, 2011

Identified By: NRC

Item Type: NCV NonCited Violation

Inadequate Fire Hazard Evaluations

The inspectors identified a noncited violation of Diablo Canyon Facility Operating License Condition 2.C (5), "Fire Protection," after Pacific Gas and Electric failed to implement the required compensatory actions described in Equipment Control Guideline 18.7, "Fire Rated Assemblies." On December 28, 2010, the licensee blocked open Fire Doors 175 and 182-2, entrances to the Unit 1 and 2 safety injection pump room to address auxiliary building ventilation flow balance problems. The supporting engineering evaluation failed to identify that the doors were rated fire barriers as described in the fire hazard analysis. If a fire had occurred, these blocked open doors would have allowed smoke and hot gases to pass from fire area AB-1 to impact equipment in adjacent fire areas 3-B-2 (Unit 1) and 3-D-2 (Unit 2). Equipment Control Guideline 18.7 required the licensee to either establish a continuous fire watch on at least one side of the inoperable fire doors or verify that the fire detection or automatic suppression system on at least one side of the fire doors was operable and establish an hourly fire watch. The licensee took corrective actions to establish the required fire watches and enter the finding into the corrective action program as Notification 50409975.

The inspectors concluded that the failure of Pacific Gas and Electric to maintain the fire doors in the rated configuration as described in the Final Safety Analysis Report Update "Fire Hazard Analysis," was a performance deficiency. This finding was more than minor because the degraded fire barriers affected the Mitigating Systems Cornerstone external factors attribute objective to prevent undesirable consequences due to fire. The inspectors concluded that the finding was of very low safety significance (Green) because the finding only affected the ability to reach and maintain cold shutdown conditions. This finding had a crosscutting aspect in the area of problem identification and resolution associated with the corrective action program component because the licensee did not thoroughly evaluate problems associated with modification of the safety injection pump room fire doors such that the resolutions addressed causes and extent of conditions, as necessary [P.1(c)].

Inspection Report# : [2011003](#) (pdf)

Significance:  Jun 26, 2011

Identified By: NRC

Item Type: NCV NonCited Violation

Less Than Adequate Evaluation of New Security Modifications

The inspectors identified a noncited violation of 10 CFR Part 50, Appendix B, Criterion V, "Instructions, Procedures, and Drawings," after Pacific Gas and Electric failed to adequately evaluate the impact of protected area boundary modifications. These modifications affected the ability of plant operators to transfer water from the raw water storage reservoirs to the auxiliary feedwater system using temporary hoses. Plant engineers authorized a series of security modifications which included the installation of physical intrusion barriers, including delay fences and razor wire between the raw water reservoirs and the auxiliary feedwater system. The licensing basis evaluation did not address raw water makeup to the auxiliary feedwater system using temporary hoses as described in Final Safety Analysis Report Update Section 6.5, "Auxiliary Feedwater System," and Section 3.7.6, "Seismic Evaluation to Demonstrate Compliance with the Hosgri Earthquake Requirements Utilizing a Dedicated Shutdown Flowpath." The licensee took immediate corrective actions to establish a route for the temporary hoses, including preplanned security compensatory measures, and entered this finding into the corrective action program as Notification 50410997.

The failure to adequately evaluate the impact of the security modifications on the plant licensing and design bases was a performance deficiency. This performance deficiency was more than minor because the finding affected the Mitigating Systems Cornerstone design control attribute and objective to ensure the availability, reliability, and capability of systems that respond to initiating events to prevent undesirable consequences. The inspectors concluded that the finding was of very low safety significance (Green) because the finding was confirmed not to result in the loss of operability or functionality. This finding had a crosscutting aspect in the area of Problem Identification and Resolution, associated with the Corrective Action Program component, because the

licensee failed to thoroughly evaluate the security modifications such that the resolutions addressed causes and extent of conditions, as necessary [P.1(c)].

Inspection Report# : [2011003](#) (pdf)

Significance:  Mar 27, 2011

Identified By: NRC

Item Type: NCV NonCited Violation

Inadequate Design Control for the Preferred Offsite Power System

The inspectors identified a Green noncited violation of 10 CFR Part 50, Appendix B, Criterion III, "Design Control," after Pacific Gas and Electric failed to ensure that the preferred offsite power system design basis was correctly translated into electrical dynamic loading Calculations 357A-DC, "Units 1 and 2 Load Flow, Short Circuit and Motor Starting Analysis," Revision 12 and 359-DC, "Offsite Power Dynamic Analysis," Revision 8. The licensee did not include the limiting load flow cases representing the largest total onsite demand for both units as required by the plant design basis. On July 7, 2010, the NRC clarified that the Diablo Canyon current licensing basis required the preferred offsite power system to have adequate capacity and capability to supply the most limiting loading requirements, including a dual unit trip. The licensee subsequently entered the condition into the corrective action program as Notification 50289590 and revised the station dynamic loading analysis to reflect the increased onsite power demand. The inspectors concluded that the failure to ensure that the dynamic loading analysis included all design basis requirements was a performance deficiency. This performance deficiency is more than minor because the finding was associated with the Mitigating Systems Cornerstone initial design control attribute and affected the cornerstone objective to ensure the availability, reliability, and capability of systems that respond to initiating events to prevent undesirable consequences. Because the inspectors were unable to conclude that the preferred offsite power system had not been inoperable for greater than the allowed Technical Specification outage time, a senior reactor analyst performed a bounding Phase 3 analysis. The Phase 3 analysis demonstrated that the subject finding was of very low safety significance (Green), because of the small increase of probability of a loss of offsite power that the finding represented. This finding had a crosscutting aspect in the area of problem identification and resolution associated with the corrective action program component because the licensee did not thoroughly evaluate the current licensing basis requirements to ensure that resolutions addressed causes and extent of conditions, as necessary. [P.1(c)]

Inspection Report# : [2011002](#) (pdf)

Significance:  Dec 31, 2010

Identified By: NRC

Item Type: NCV NonCited Violation

Failure to Maintain a Fire Barrier

The inspectors identified a noncited violation of Diablo Canyon Facility Operating License Condition 2.C (5), "Fire Protection," after Pacific Gas and Electric failed to maintain the integrity of Door 155 in the rated condition. On December 9, 2010, the inspectors identified that the fire door was inoperable. Equipment Control Guideline 18.7, "Fire Rated Assemblies," required the licensee to maintain Door 155 in a configuration that would provide at least a 1½-hour rated fire barrier. The inspectors previously identified that Door 155 was degraded as a fire barrier in 2009. The licensee entered the violation into the corrective action program as Notification 50367381 and took immediate corrective actions to restore the fire barrier to the rated condition and to implement weekly plant fire door walkdowns.

The inspectors concluded that the finding was more than minor because the degraded fire barrier affected the Mitigating Systems Cornerstone external factors attribute and objective to prevent undesirable consequences due to fire. The inspectors determined that the finding was within the fire confinement category and that the fire barrier was moderately degraded. The inspectors concluded that the finding was of very low safety significance (Green) because there was a non-degraded automatic full area water-based suppression system in the exposed fire area. This finding had a crosscutting aspect in the area of problem identification and resolution associated with the corrective action program component because the licensee did not take effective corrective actions to following the previous occurrence of the violation [P.1(d)].

Inspection Report# : [2010005](#) (pdf)

Significance: G Dec 31, 2010

Identified By: NRC

Item Type: NCV NonCited Violation

Inadequate Transient Combustibles Procedure

The inspectors identified a noncited violation of Diablo Canyon Unit 2 Facility Operating License Condition 2.C.(5), “Fire Protection,” after Pacific Gas and Electric failed to ensure procedures for controlling flammable and combustible materials adequately incorporated requirements of the fire hazard analysis. On October 18, 2010, the inspectors identified that transient combustible materials staged in the Unit 1 12 kilovolt switchgear room did not have an approved transient combustibles permit. The licensee stated that the combustibles permit procedure did not require a permit for the room while Unit 1 was shutdown. However, the plant fire hazards design basis described safe shutdown equipment in the room that would be needed to support a safe shutdown of the operating unit, specifically the Unit 2 startup bus located in the room. The inspectors determined that the licensee’s transient combustibles permit procedure was inadequate because the procedure did not require a permit for the Unit 1 12 kilovolt switchgear room when Unit 2 was operating. The licensee entered the issue into the corrective action program as Notification 50366302 and performed an evaluation of the transient combustibles stored in the area.

The inspectors concluded that this finding was more than minor because it affected the Mitigating Systems Cornerstone external factors attribute objective to limit the likelihood of those events that upset plant stability and challenge critical safety functions. The inspectors determined that the finding was within the fire prevention and administrative controls category and represented a low degradation level due to the minimal impact on the effectiveness and reliability of the affected systems. The inspectors concluded that the finding was of very low safety significance (Green) based on a qualitative screening, the low degradation rating, and only equipment needed to reach and maintain cold shutdown conditions was affected. This finding had a crosscutting aspect in the area of human performance associated with the resources component because the licensee failed to ensure that the design documentation adequately identified the Unit 2 startup bus as equipment required for safe shutdown for Unit 2 [H.2 (c)].

Inspection Report# : [2010005](#) (*pdf*)

Significance: G Dec 31, 2010

Identified By: NRC

Item Type: NCV NonCited Violation

Inadequate Operability Determinations

The inspectors identified a noncited violation of 10 CFR Part 50, Appendix B, Criteria V, “Instructions, Procedures, and Drawings,” after Pacific Gas and Electric failed to adequately evaluate two nonconforming conditions for operability as required by Procedure OM7.ID12, “Operability Determination.” On October 15, 2010, the inspectors identified a less than adequate technical evaluation supporting Prompt Operability Assessment 50350918, “Unit 2 - Insulation in Bio-Wall Penetration.” Engineering personnel failed to adequately evaluate the extent of condition after technicians identified about 632 pounds of Temp-Mat and 60 pounds of Min-K fibrous insulation in the Unit 1 reactor coolant loop biological shield wall penetrations. This fibrous material could have potentially been transported and plugged the emergency core cooling containment sump screen. The licensee performed the prompt operability assessment for Unit 2, which was operating at the time. The inspectors concluded that the engineering personnel inappropriately applied the leak-before-break methodology to exclude about 87 percent of this material from the extent of condition review in the prompt operability assessment.

The second example involved Prompt Operability Assessment Notification 50355265, “RHR Sump Margin,” which was completed by the licensee on October 23, 2010. In this example, engineering personnel failed to identify and demonstrate that the specified safety function of the refueling water storage tank could be maintained as required by the plant operability procedure. The inspectors identified that the post accident flow path from the reactor cavity to the containment sump was blocked by a large shield plug. This blockage reduced the amount of post accident inventory available at the containment sump at the time of transition from injection to recirculation mode of emergency core cooling operation. Engineering personnel failed to demonstrate that the safety function to ensure full sump submergence was maintained with the blocked flow path. Full submergence of the sump was used by the NRC as the basis for approval of Technical Specification 3.5.4, “Refueling Water Storage Tank,” inventory requirements. The licensee entered the violation into the corrective action program as Notification 50369117 and revised the prompt operability assessments using assumptions consistent with the current licensing bases.

The inspectors concluded that the performance deficiency was more than minor because the finding affected the Mitigating Systems Cornerstone initial design control attribute and objective to ensure the availability, reliability, and capability of systems that respond to initiating events to prevent undesirable consequences. The inspectors concluded that the finding was of very low safety significance (Green) because the finding was confirmed not to result in the loss of operability or functionality. This finding had a crosscutting aspect in the area of human performance associated with the decision making component because Pacific Gas and Electric did not use conservative assumptions in decisions to demonstrate component operability in either example [H.1(b)].

Inspection Report# : [2010005](#) (*pdf*)

Significance:  Dec 31, 2010

Identified By: NRC

Item Type: NCV NonCited Violation

Less than Adequate Containment Recirculation Sump Design Control

The inspectors identified a noncited violation of 10 CFR Part 50, Appendix B, Criterion III, "Design Control," after Pacific Gas and Electric failed to ensure Calculation STA-255, "Minimum Required Refueling Water Storage Tank Level for GE Sumps," Revision 2, demonstrated adequate available refueling water storage tank inventory. On October 19, 2010, the inspectors identified that emergency core cooling post accident flow path from the reactor cavity to the containment sumps was blocked by a large steel plug on Unit 1. The accident analysis assumed this 35 square foot path was open to allow coolant from a pipe break inside the biological shield to communicate with containment sumps during the recirculation mode of emergency core cooling. The licensee credited the inventory from the reactor cavity when determining the minimum required refueling water storage tank volume in Calculation STA-255. Pacific Gas and Electric used Calculation STA-255 as the basis for determining the minimum required refueling water storage tank volume specified by Technical Specification 3.5.4, "Refueling Water Storage Tank." The inspectors identified that the recirculation flow path was also blocked on Unit 2. The inspectors concluded that the most significant contributor to the violation was inaccurate plant drawings used by plant engineers during the performance of Calculation STA-255. The licensee's corrective actions included completion of a prompt operability assessment justifying continued operation of Unit 2 and replacement of the shield plug with a movable platform on Unit 1 prior to plant restart.

The inspectors concluded that the performance deficiency was more than minor because the finding affected the Mitigating Systems Cornerstone plant modification design control attribute and objective to ensure the availability, reliability, and capability of systems that respond to initiating events to prevent undesirable consequences. The inspectors concluded that the finding was of very low safety significance (Green) because the performance deficiency involved a design deficiency confirmed not to result in the loss of operability or functionality. This finding had a crosscutting aspect in the area of human performance associated with the resources component because Pacific Gas and Electric failed to use complete, accurate and up-to-date drawing for Calculation STA 255 [H.2(c)].

Inspection Report# : [2010005](#) (*pdf*)

Significance:  Dec 31, 2010

Identified By: NRC

Item Type: NCV NonCited Violation

Inadequate Emergency Diesel Generator Surveillance Testing

The inspectors identified a noncited violation of 10 CFR Part 50, Appendix B, Criterion XI, "Test Control," after Pacific Gas and Electric failed to develop and implement an adequate testing program for the emergency diesel generators that met design requirements and recommendations. Specifically, in December 2008, the inspectors identified that the diesel generator loading calculations were inadequate to demonstrate that the design bases were met. Pacific Gas and Electric updated the load calculations, but failed to make the necessary revisions to Surveillance Test Procedure STP M-9D1, "Diesel Generator Full Load Rejection Test." As a result, Pacific Gas and Electric failed to test several of the emergency diesel generators at the complete load as required by Regulatory Guide 1.108, Revision 1, which is part of the current licensing bases. The licensee entered this into the corrective action program as Notification 50368801, determined there was no loss of safety function for the affected components, and applied the provisions of Surveillance Requirement 3.0.3 for a missed surveillance test. The inspectors concluded the most significant contributor to the finding was less than adequate diesel generator loading evaluations to support corrective action from previous violations associated with the emergency diesel generator testing.

The inspectors concluded that the performance deficiency was more than minor because the finding affected the equipment control attribute of the Mitigating Systems Cornerstone and affected the cornerstone objective of ensuring the availability, reliability, and capability of systems that respond to initiating events to prevent undesirable consequences. The inspectors determined that the finding was of very low safety significance (Green) because it did not represent an actual loss of safety function of a single train for greater than its technical specification allowed outage time. This finding had a crosscutting aspect in the area of problem identification and resolution, associated with the corrective action program component because the licensee failed to perform an adequate evaluation of the nonconservative surveillance test such that the resolution addressed the fundamental basis for the surveillance [P.1 (c)].

Inspection Report# : [2010005](#) (*pdf*)

Significance:  Dec 31, 2010

Identified By: NRC

Item Type: NCV NonCited Violation

Inadequate Quality Verification Audits

The inspectors identified a noncited violation of 10CFR Appendix B, Criterion XVIII, “Audits”, which required that a comprehensive system of planned and periodic audits be carried out to verify compliance with all aspects of the quality assurance program and to determine the effectiveness of the program as well as follow up action, including re-audit of deficient areas, where indicated. Contrary to this requirement, Pacific Gas and Electric failed to ensure that a comprehensive system of planned and periodic audits were carried out to verify compliance with all aspects of the quality assurance program, determine the effectiveness of the program, and perform necessary follow up actions. Specifically, the 2008 Quality Verification audit of the corrective action program failed to adequately address an adverse trend in the problem evaluation process documented in NRC Inspection report 2008005, which identified eleven examples of an adverse trend in problem evaluation. The licensee entered this into their corrective action program as Notification 50365083 and determined

there was no loss of safety function for the affected components. The inspectors concluded the most significant contributor to the finding was a less than adequate evaluation of the corrective action trending program.

This finding was more than minor because it was associated with the equipment control attribute of the Mitigating Systems cornerstone and affected the cornerstone objective of ensuring the availability, reliability, and capability of systems that respond to initiating events to prevent undesirable consequences. The inspectors determined the performance deficiency was of very low safety significance (Green) it was a deficiency confirmed not to result in the loss of operability or functionality. This finding had a crosscutting aspect in the area of problem identification and resolution, associated with the corrective action program component, because the licensee failed to coordinate and communicate the results from assessments to affected personnel, and track the corrective actions to address issues commensurate with their significance [P.3(c)].

Inspection Report# : [2010005](#) (*pdf*)

Barrier Integrity

Significance:  Sep 25, 2011

Identified By: NRC

Item Type: NCV NonCited Violation

Failure to Maintain the Control Room Habitability System in the Design Configuration

The inspectors identified a Green noncited violation of Technical Specification 5.5.19, “Control Room Envelope Habitability Program,” after the licensee failed to maintain the Unit 1 control room ventilation train in the design configuration. The inspectors identified that Unit 1 control room ventilation system was in a degraded/non-conforming condition on August 31, 2011. The inspectors observed airflow bypassing the control room inlet header through disconnected ductwork. Technical Specification 5.5.19 required the licensee to maintain the habitability system in the most limited configuration used during the tracer gas in-leakage test. The disconnected ductwork was a more limiting condition than the tested configuration. The licensee took corrective action to declare the control room envelope inoperable and entered the finding into the corrective action program as Notification 50425114.

The inspectors determined that the failure of the licensee to maintain the control room habitability system in the design configuration was a performance deficiency. This finding was more than minor because it was associated with the configuration control attribute of the Barrier Integrity Cornerstone and affected the cornerstone objective to provide reasonable assurance for the control room physical design to protect from radionuclide releases caused by accidents or events. The inspectors concluded that the finding was of very low safety significance (Green) because the finding only represented a degradation of the radiological barrier function provided for the control room. This finding had a crosscutting aspect in the area of human performance associated with work control in that the licensee failed to appropriately plan work activities consistent with nuclear safety.

Inspection Report# : [2011004](#) (*pdf*)

Significance:  Sep 25, 2011

Identified By: NRC

Item Type: NCV NonCited Violation

Failure to Follow a Procedural Requirement for Reactivity Manipulation

The inspectors identified a noncited violation of 10 CFR Part 50, Appendix B, Criterion V, "Procedures," after operations personnel conducted a reactivity manipulation during shift turnover. Procedure OP1.ID3, "Reactivity Management Program," required plant operators to suspend reactivity manipulations during shift turnover. On March 27, 2011, plant operators conducted a continuous dilution during shift turnover. The licensee entered this condition into the corrective action program as Notification 50407054.

The inspectors concluded that the failure of operations personnel to follow Procedure OP1.ID3 was a performance deficiency. The finding was more than minor because the performance deficiency was associated with the procedure adherence area of the human performance attribute of the barrier integrity cornerstone and affected the objective to provide reasonable assurance that design barriers will protect the public from radionuclide releases. The inspectors concluded that the finding was of very low safety significance (Green) because only the fuel barrier was affected by the performance deficiency. The finding has a crosscutting aspect in the area of human performance, associated with work practices component, because the licensee failed to define and effectively communicate expectations regarding procedural compliance.

Inspection Report# : [2011004](#) (*pdf*)

Significance:  Jun 26, 2011

Identified By: NRC

Item Type: FIN Finding

Inadequate Review of Severe Accident Management Guidelines

The inspectors identified a finding after Pacific Gas and Electric failed to periodically review and update the severe accident management guidelines. Procedure OM10.ID5, "Severe Accident Management," required the licensee to review and update the severe accident management guidelines biennially to ensure that any changes in plant design or procedures, experience in severe accident management requalification training, and any changes in industry understanding of severe accidents were incorporated into the severe accident management guidelines. As a result of the licensee's failure to implement the periodic review, the severe accident management guidelines did not incorporate the latest owners' group guidance or recent plant design and hardware changes. The licensee took corrective actions to implement the biennial reviews and entered this finding into the corrective action program as Notification 50399554.

Pacific Gas and Electric's failure to follow procedural requirements for periodic review of the severe accident management guidelines was a performance deficiency. The finding was more than minor because if left uncorrected, the failure to review and update the severe accident management guidelines has the potential to lead to a more significant safety concern. This finding affected the barrier integrity cornerstone because the severe accident management guidelines are procedures that would be used to maintain the functionality of the containment should a severe accident occur. The inspectors concluded that the finding was of very low safety significance because it did not represent a degradation of the radiological, smoke, or toxic atmosphere barrier function; or represent an actual open pathway in the physical integrity of the reactor containment; or involve the function of the containment hydrogen igniters. The finding did not have any crosscutting aspects because the performance deficiency occurred more than three years ago and is not indicative of current licensee performance in that the licensee has improved the design review process since the performance deficiency occurred.

Significance:  Mar 27, 2011

Identified By: NRC

Item Type: NCV NonCited Violation

Failure to Document Design Basis of Containment Fan Cooler Unit Cooling Coil Casings

The inspectors identified a noncited violation of 10 CFR Part 50, Appendix B, Criterion III, "Design Control," which states, in part, that measures shall be established to assure that applicable regulatory requirements and the design basis are correctly translated into specifications, drawings, procedures, and instructions. Specifically, prior to December 15, 2010, the licensee failed to assure that the design basis function of the containment fan cooler unit casings was translated into specifications, drawings, procedures, and instructions. The licensee has entered this violation into the corrective action program as Notification 50384801.

The inspectors determined that the failure to establish measures to assure that the design basis function of the containment fan cooler unit cooling coil casings was translated into specifications, drawings, procedures, and instructions was a performance deficiency. The finding was more than minor because it adversely affected the barrier integrity cornerstone objective to provide reasonable assurance that physical design barriers (fuel cladding, reactor coolant system, and containment) protect the public from radionuclide releases caused by accidents or events. Using Inspection Manual Chapter 0609, Attachment 4, "Initial Screening and Characterization of Findings," the finding was determined to be of very low safety significance (Green) because it did not represent a degradation of the barrier function of the control room against a smoke or toxic barrier, an open pathway in the physical integrity of reactor containment, or an actual reduction in function of hydrogen igniters in the reactor containment. The inspectors determined that this finding has a crosscutting aspect in the area of human performance because the licensee failed to ensure that personnel, equipment, procedures and other resources were available to assure nuclear safety by maintaining complete, accurate and up-to-date design documentation. [H.2(c)]

Inspection Report# : [2011002](#) (pdf)

Significance:  Mar 27, 2011

Identified By: Self-Revealing

Item Type: NCV NonCited Violation

Inadequate Design Control for the Auxiliary Building Ventilation System Control Panel Modification

The inspectors reviewed a self-revealing noncited violation of 10 CFR Part 50, Appendix B, Criterion III, "Design Control," after Pacific Gas and Electric failed to ensure that the design basis requirements for single failure criteria were correctly translated into auxiliary building ventilation system controls modifications. On January 10, 2011, a single failure of a Unit 2 auxiliary building ventilation Train "A" damper resulted in the loss of system safety function for both trains. The loss of safety function occurred because of a logic error in the programmable logic controllers. The licensee programmed and installed the logic controllers in November 2010 for Unit 1 and in November 2009 for Unit 2. The inspectors identified that the engineering department performed a less than adequate review to identify the single point vulnerability during the modification review process. Pacific Gas and Electric entered this issue into the corrective action program as Notification 50370698, replaced the failed damper, and implemented compensatory actions to mitigate the design deficiency. The licensee plans to implement corrective actions to program the logic controller program consistent with the design basis requirements.

The inspectors concluded that the failure to ensure that the modification met design basis requirements was a performance deficiency. This performance deficiency is more than minor because it was associated with the design control attribute of the Barrier Integrity Cornerstone and affected the cornerstone objective to provide reasonable assurance that physical design barriers and radiological barriers, including the Auxiliary Building, protect the public from radionuclide releases caused by accidents or events. The inspectors determined that the finding had very low safety significance because the finding only represents degradation to the radiological barrier function provided for the auxiliary building. This finding had a crosscutting aspect in the area of human performance associated with work practices because the licensee did not ensure human error prevention techniques, such as self and peer checking, were effectively used in the preparation of the modification. [H.4(a)]

Inspection Report# : [2011002](#) (pdf)

Emergency Preparedness

Significance:  Sep 25, 2011

Identified By: NRC

Item Type: NCV NonCited Violation

Failure to Ensure Emergency Response Organization Qualifications

A noncited violation of 10 CFR 50.47(b)(10) was identified for the licensee's failure to ensure a range of protective actions is available for emergency workers during emergencies. Specifically, an operator filled an on-shift emergency response organization watch position with expired self-contained breathing apparatus respiratory protection qualifications. The licensee has entered this issue into the corrective action program as Notification 50420127.

The failure to ensure that an emergency response organization on-shift watch stander was respiratory protection qualified is a performance deficiency. This finding is greater than minor because it affects the emergency response organization readiness attribute of the emergency preparedness cornerstone to ensure that the licensee is capable of implementing adequate measures to protect the health and safety of the public in the event of a radiological emergency. The finding is of very low safety significance because it was not a loss of a planning standard function. The finding had a human performance crosscutting aspect of conservative assumptions under the decision making component because the licensee did not ensure that personnel filling the minimum shift staffing emergency response organization positions were qualified to take the watch.

Inspection Report# : [2011004](#) (*pdf*)

Occupational Radiation Safety

Significance:  Jun 26, 2011

Identified By: NRC

Item Type: NCV NonCited Violation

Failure to Follow Procedures for Testing HEPA Ventilation Units

The inspectors identified a noncited violation of Technical Specification 5.4.1(a) for the failure to follow procedures for testing and using the high-efficiency particulate air ventilation units used to prevent personal contamination. Licensee immediate actions included removing all high-efficiency particulate air ventilation units installed for the Unit 2 outage and testing all high-efficiency particulate air ventilation units as required by procedure. This matter was placed in the licensee's corrective action program as Notifications 50399479, 50399560, and 50399682.

This failure to follow procedures was a performance deficiency. The finding was more than minor because it was associated with the program and process attribute of the occupational radiation safety cornerstone. The finding affected the objective to ensure adequate protection of the worker's health and safety from exposure to unintended radiation from radioactive material during routine civilian nuclear reactor operation. Using the Inspection Manual Chapter 0609, Appendix C, "Occupational Radiation Safety Significance Determination Process," the inspectors determined the finding was of very low safety significance because (1) it was not associated with as low as is reasonably achievable (ALARA) planning or work controls, (2) there was no overexposure, (3) there was no substantial potential for an overexposure, and (4) the ability to assess dose was not compromised. This finding was determined to have a crosscutting aspect in the area of human performance, associated with work practices, because the licensee did not effectively communicate expectations regarding procedural compliance and the personnel following the procedures [H.4(b)].

Inspection Report# : [2011003](#) (*pdf*)

Public Radiation Safety

Physical Protection

Although the NRC is actively overseeing the Security cornerstone, the Commission has decided that certain findings pertaining to security cornerstone will not be publicly available to ensure that potentially useful information is not provided to a possible adversary. Therefore, the [cover letters](#) to security inspection reports may be viewed.

Miscellaneous

Last modified : January 04, 2012