Hatch 2
2Q/2012 Plant Inspection Findings

Initiating Events

Mitigating Systems

Significance: G Jun 30, 2012
Identified By: NRC
Item Type: NCV NonCited Violation
Inadequate surveillance procedures for evaluating accumulated gas in the HPCI and RCIC systems
The inspectors identified a non-cited violation of Hatch Nuclear Plant Technical Specification 5.4, “Procedures,” with five examples for the licensee’s failure to establish, implement and maintain surveillance procedures for the high pressure coolant injection (HPCI) and reactor core isolation cooling (RCIC) systems. The deficiencies associated with the surveillance procedures precluded adequate evaluation of the as-found condition of those systems against acceptance criteria which serve as a basis for system operability. The licensee entered these five issues into their corrective action program under CRs 440646, 441302, 441333 and 441863. The immediate corrective actions included performing ultrasonic inspection of the surveillance test points which verified the absence of gas pockets. Interim corrective actions included implementing the performance of ultrasonic inspection of the surveillance test points immediately prior to venting the system in accordance with the surveillance procedure as a means to accurately quantify and evaluate the effects of any gas discovered.

For the five examples identified, the failure to establish, implement and maintain adequate surveillance procedures to identify and evaluate accumulated gas in the HPCI and RCIC systems were performance deficiencies. The performance deficiencies were determined to be more than minor because they affected the procedure quality attribute of mitigating systems cornerstone objective to ensure the availability, reliability, and capability of systems that respond to initiating events to prevent undesirable consequences. Specifically, the performance deficiencies challenged the assurance that procedures used to perform surveillance testing of the HPCI and RCIC systems had adequately identified and evaluated the as-found condition of those systems as a basis for continued system operability. Additionally, if the performance deficiencies were left uncorrected, assurance was challenged that any future voids in the HPCI and RCIC system would be adequately identified and evaluated. The team screened the finding in accordance with Inspection Manual Chapter 0609, “Significance Determination Process,” Attachment 4, “Phase 1 - Initial Screening and Characterization of Findings,” and determined the finding was of very low safety significance (Green). These performance deficiencies were assigned a cross-cutting aspect in the corrective action component of the problem identification and resolution area because the licensee did not take adequate corrective actions in 2009 when weaknesses were identified with the surveillance procedures (P.1 (d)). (Section 4OA5.3)

Inspection Report# : 2012003 *(pdf)*

Barrier Integrity

Emergency Preparedness

Occupational Radiation Safety

Public Radiation Safety

Security

Although the Security Cornerstone is included in the Reactor Oversight Process assessment program, the Commission has decided that specific information related to findings and performance indicators pertaining to the Security Cornerstone will not be publicly available to ensure that security information is not provided to a possible adversary. Other than the fact that a finding or performance indicator is Green or Greater-Than-Green, security related information will not be displayed on the public web page. Therefore, the cover letters to security inspection reports may be viewed.

Miscellaneous

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