



Home > Nuclear Reactors > Operating Reactors > Reactor Oversight Process > Plant Summaries> Sequoyah 1 > Quarterly Plant Inspection Findings

Sequoyah 1 – Quarterly Plant Inspection Findings

3Q/2017 – Plant Inspection Findings

On this page:

- Initiating Events
- Mitigating Systems
- Barrier Integrity
- Emergency Preparedness
- Occupational Radiation Safety
- Public Radiation Safety
- Security

Initiating Events

Mitigating Systems

Significance: G Mar 31, 2017

Identified By: NRC

Item Type: NCV Non-Cited Violation

Degraded Fire Barrier Penetration

The NRC identified a non-cited violation of the facility's operating license for the failure to identify a nonfunctional fire barrier penetration and enter it into the corrective action program (CAP) when the initial damage to the fire barrier occurred. The licensee also failed to implement required compensatory measures for a nonfunctional fire barrier penetration contrary to the approved fire protection report. The licensee entered the issues into their CAP as Condition Report (CR) 1263322.

The performance deficiency was determined to be more than minor because it was associated with the protection against external events (fire) attribute of the Mitigating Systems cornerstone and adversely affected the cornerstone objective in that there was no assurance the fire barrier would prevent the spread of fire through the cable penetration during a design basis fire. The finding was of very low safety significance (Green) due to fully functional automatic suppression systems on either side of the fire barrier. The inspectors identified a cross-cutting aspect in the Identification component of the Problem Identification and Resolution area, because the licensee failed to enter the damaged fire barrier into their CAP after it was initially damaged [P.1]

Inspection Report# : 2017001 (*pdf*)

Significance: G Dec 19, 2016

Identified By: NRC

Item Type: NCV Non-Cited Violation

Degrader Fire Barrier Penetrations

The NRC identified a non-cited violation (NCV) of the facility's operating license for the licensee's failure to ensure that all fire barrier penetrations in fire zones boundaries protecting safety related areas are functional at all times. Specifically, on eight separate fire barrier penetrations, the licensee failed to recognize that the barrier had become damaged to the point of being nonfunctional. The licensee also failed to implement required compensatory measures for a nonfunctional fire barrier penetration contrary to the approved fire protection report (FPR). The licensee entered the issues into their corrective action program (CAP) as Condition Reports (CRs) 1229468, 1229470, 1243550, 1243970, 1243552, 1243554, 1243555, and 1243557. The performance deficiency was determined to be more than minor because it was associated with the protection against external events (fire) attribute of the mitigating systems cornerstone and adversely affected the cornerstone objective to ensure the availability, reliability, and capability of systems that respond to initiating events to prevent undesirable consequences. Specifically, with the fire barriers being damaged to the point of declaring the fire barrier penetrations nonfunctional, there was no assurance that the fire barrier would prevent the spread of fire through the cable penetration during a design basis fire. The inspectors performed the SDP using NRC Inspection Manual Chapter 0609, "Significance Determination Process", Appendix F, Attachment 2, "Degradation Rating Guidance Specific to Various Fire Protection Program Elements," and assigned a "High" degradation rating, giving no credit for Barrier Protection in accordance with the "Fire Barrier Degradation" section. The inspectors concluded, that the finding was of very low safety significance (Green) due to fully functional automatic suppression systems on either side of the fire barrier (Question 1.4.3-C). Using Manual Chapter 0310, "Aspects Within the Cross-Cutting Areas," the inspectors identified a cross-cutting aspect in the Identification component of the Problem Identification and Resolution area, because the licensee failed to enter the damaged fire barrier into their CAP after it was initially damaged [P.1].

Inspection Report# : 2016004 (*pdf*)

Barrier Integrity

Emergency Preparedness

Occupational Radiation Safety

Public Radiation Safety

Security

The security cornerstone is an important component of the ROP, which includes various security inspection activities the NRC uses to verify licensee compliance with Commission regulations and thus ensure public health and safety. The Commission determined in the staff requirements memorandum (SRM) for SECY-04-0191, "Withholding Sensitive Unclassified Information Concerning Nuclear Power Reactors from Public Disclosure," dated November 9, 2004, that specific information related to findings and performance indicators associated with the security cornerstone will not be publicly available to ensure that security-related information is not provided to a possible adversary. Security inspection report cover letters will be available on the NRC Web site; however, security-related information on the details of inspection finding(s) will not be displayed.

Miscellaneous

Significance: N/A Jun 23, 2017

Identified By: NRC

Item Type: FIN Finding

Biennial PI&R Inspection Summary

The inspectors concluded that, in general, problems were properly identified, evaluated, prioritized, and corrected. The licensee was effective at identifying problems and entering them into the corrective action program (CAP) for resolution, as evidenced by the relatively few number of deficiencies identified by external organizations (including the NRC) that had not been previously identified by the licensee, during the review period. Generally, prioritization and evaluation of issues were adequate, formal root cause evaluations for significant problems were adequate, and

corrective actions specified for problems were acceptable. Overall, corrective actions developed and implemented for issues were generally effective and implemented in a timely manner.

The inspectors determined that overall, audits and self-assessments were adequate in identifying deficiencies and areas for improvement in the CAP, and appropriate corrective actions were developed to address the issues identified. Operating experience (OE) usage was found to be generally acceptable and integrated into the licensee's processes for performing and managing work and plant operations.

Based on discussions and interviews conducted with plant employees from various departments, the inspectors determined that personnel at the site felt free to raise safety concerns to management and use the CAP to resolve those concerns.

Inspection Report# : 2017009 (*pdf*)

Current data as of : November 29, 2017

Page Last Reviewed/Updated Monday, November 06, 2017