

Byron 1

1Q/2003 Plant Inspection Findings

Initiating Events

Mitigating Systems

Significance:  Sep 30, 2002

Identified By: NRC

Item Type: NCV NonCited Violation

ADEQUATE ACCEPTANCE CRITERIA FOR GENERIC LETTER 89-13 HEAT EXCHANGER INSPECTIONS

The inspectors identified a finding of very low safety significance regarding inadequate acceptance criteria for the licensee's Generic Letter 89-13 heat exchanger inspections. The inspectors identified this issue during observations and review of the licensee's inspection of an auxiliary feedwater system heat exchanger. The finding was more than minor because it adversely affected the licensee's ability to ensure that safety-related heat exchangers would be available, reliable, and capable of responding to initiating events to prevent undesirable consequences. The finding was very low safety significance because the as-found and as-left conditions of the heat exchangers did not reveal any actual concerns with the operability of the heat exchangers. This was determined to be a Non-Cited Violation of 10 CFR 50 Appendix B, Criteria V.

Inspection Report# : [2002006\(pdf\)](#)

Significance: SL-IV Jun 30, 2002

Identified By: NRC

Item Type: NCV NonCited Violation

INADEQUATE 50.59 EVALUATION RESULTED IN THE CCW SYSTEM NOT MEETING SINGLE FAILURE CRITERIA FOR A THERMAL BARRIER HEAT EXCHANGER RUPTURE EVENT

The inspectors identified a Severity Level IV Non-Cited Violation. In July 1998, the licensee implemented a change to the Updated Final Safety Analysis Report (UFSAR) that involved an unreviewed safety question and for which prior NRC approval was not obtained per the requirements of 10 CFR 50.59 in effect at the time. Specifically, the licensee changed the UFSAR and failed to adequately evaluate: 1) an elimination of performance requirements for valve 1/2CC-9438 associated with isolation of a loss of coolant accident following a thermal barrier heat exchanger rupture; 2) a decrease in the number, from two to one, of valves in the component cooling water return line that were relied upon to meet the performance requirements of General Design Criteria 44 and 54, and; 3) a substitution of operator manual actions for a remote manual valve closure. This change to the facility, as described in the UFSAR, created the possibility for a new accident not previously evaluated in the UFSAR. Because the Significance Determination Process (SDP) is not designed to assess the significance of violations that potentially impact or impede the regulatory process, this issue was dispositioned using the traditional enforcement process in accordance with Section IV of the NRC Enforcement Policy. However, the results of the violation, that is, the elimination of performance requirements for one of two valves relied upon to isolate a loss of coolant accident involving a thermal barrier heat exchanger rupture, were assessed using the SDP. The severity level of the violation was then based upon the SDP assessment for the results of the violation. The results of the violation were considered to have more than minor safety significance, in that, the results of the violation had a credible impact on safety by affecting the operability, availability, reliability, or

functioning of the component cooling water system. However, the results of the violation did not cause a loss of function of the component cooling water system per the guidance of Generic Letter 91-18, "Resolution of Degraded and Non-Conforming Conditions." Therefore, the results of the violation were determined to be of very low safety significance, a Green finding, and the violation of 10 CFR 50.59 was classified as a Severity Level IV violation. Because this non-willful violation was non-repetitive, and was captured in the licensee's corrective action program, this issue is being treated as a Non-Cited Violation, consistent with the NRC Enforcement Policy.

Inspection Report# : [2002005\(pdf\)](#)

Barrier Integrity

Significance:  Mar 19, 2003

Identified By: NRC

Item Type: FIN Finding

FAILURE TO ADEQUATELY EVALUATE THE OPERABILITY OF THE NONACCESSIBLE AREA EXHAUST FILTER PLENUM VENTILATION SYSTEM DURING A WORK ACTIVITY.

The inspectors identified a finding of very low safety significance regarding the licensee's failure to appropriately assess the operability of the nonaccessible area exhaust filter plenum ventilation system during a work activity to repair the discharge flow control damper for the OA auxiliary building heating, ventilation and air conditioning system (VA) nonaccessible filter plenum exhaust fan. The primary cause of this finding was related to the cross-cutting area of human performance. The licensee failed to recognize that failing open an inlet damper within the system resulted in the associated train being inoperable. This finding was more than minor because it involved an inadequate operability evaluation of the nonaccessible area exhaust filter plenum ventilation system, which if left uncorrected, would have become a more significant safety concern, in that, it would impact the operators' ability to combat an accident and minimize offsite exposure for certain accidents. This finding is of very low safety significance because it only represented a degradation of the radiological barrier function provided for the auxiliary building. No violations of NRC requirements occurred.

Inspection Report# : [2003002\(pdf\)](#)

Significance:  Sep 30, 2002

Identified By: Self Disclosing

Item Type: FIN Finding

OPERATOR FAILED TO COMMUNICATE ABNORMAL INDICATIONS WHILE ATTEMPTING TO SHUT A PRIMARY SAMPLE SYSTEM CONTAINMENT ISOLATION VALVE

A finding of very low safety significance was identified through a self-revealing event when an operator failed to recognize inappropriate indication of a pressurizer liquid sample line isolation valve and failed to communicate this appropriately to the unit supervisor. The primary cause of this finding was related to the cross-cutting area of Human Performance. This finding was more than minor because it involved misinterpretation of an erroneous valve position indication and the human performance attribute of the Barrier Integrity cornerstone. This finding was very low safety significance because it did not represent a degradation of a radiological barrier and it did not result in an open pathway in the physical integrity of the reactor containment. No violation of USNRC requirements occurred.

Inspection Report# : [2002006\(pdf\)](#)

Emergency Preparedness

Occupational Radiation Safety

Public Radiation Safety

Physical Protection

Miscellaneous

Last modified : May 30, 2003