

Limerick 1

1Q/2004 Plant Inspection Findings

Initiating Events

Mitigating Systems



Significance: Dec 31, 2003

Identified By: NRC

Item Type: NCV NonCited Violation

Did Not Adequately Assess and Manage Risk of Testing the D12 4kV Bus Under-Voltage Relay

The inspector identified a finding of very low safety significance, that is also a non-cited violation of 10 CFR 50.65 (a)(4), because on August 5, 2003, Exelon performed testing on the Unit 1 D12 4 kV bus under-voltage relay without having properly assessed and managed the increase in risk associated with the test. Specifically, the risk was higher than Exelon originally determined since the test made the D12 4 kV bus and D12 EDG unavailable. As a result, based on the higher risk, the test should not have been performed with the plant at power.

This issue is greater than minor because it is associated with the human performance attribute (incorrect assumption made in risk determination) and adversely affects the objective of the mitigating system cornerstone in that the EDG and associated bus were unavailable during the test and could not respond to certain initiating events. This finding is not suitable for analysis by a Significance Determination Process (SDP) because there is no current SDP to assess the significance of maintenance risk assessment findings. This finding was determined to be of very low safety significance (Green) and not greater than very low safety significance by management review because the performance deficiency did not result in a loss of the system safety function and the length of time that the D12 EDG and bus were unavailable was short (45 min). (Section 1R13)

Inspection Report# : [2003005\(pdf\)](#)



Significance: Dec 31, 2003

Identified By: NRC

Item Type: NCV NonCited Violation

Did Not Follow Chemistry Procedure CH-1010

The inspectors identified a finding of very low safety significance that is also a non-cited violation of Technical Specification 6.8.1, "Procedures," because the chemistry staff did not follow procedures. Specifically, on several occasions since April 2003, Exelon staff did not perform the required daily sample and analysis of spray pond water and when pH in the spray pond water was outside of the specifications, did not take the actions described in the procedure within the specified time period.

The finding is greater than minor because it is similar to example 4.a "Insignificant Procedural Errors" in Appendix E of NRC Inspection Manual Chapter 0612, "Power Reactor Inspection Reports." By not following the chemistry sampling and analysis procedure, Exelon adversely affected the safety-related 2B RHR heat exchanger, in that, the reliability of the 2B RHR heat exchanger under post-accident conditions was reduced. The finding impacts the Mitigating System Integrity Cornerstone because it is associated with the reliability of the 2B RHR subsystem, a mitigating system.

The inspectors identified that a contributing cause of this finding involved a human performance error because neither a chemistry technician nor the technician's supervisor followed the steps prescribed by procedure CH-1010. (Section 1R15)

Inspection Report# : [2003005\(pdf\)](#)



Significance: Nov 21, 2003

Identified By: NRC

Item Type: NCV NonCited Violation

Failure to Develop s Station Blackout Procedure Consistent with 10CFR50.63 Coping Analysis

The team identified a non-cited violation of 10 CFR 50.63, "Loss of All Alternating Current Power," because the licensee's procedures used to cope with a station blackout may not have restored a source of alternating current power to the affected unit within one hour. The restoration of power within one hour is an assumption in the station blackout coping analysis used to demonstrate the plant would be able to manage a station blackout of a specified duration by taking credit for certain safe shutdown equipment such as residual heat removal pumps, air compressors,

and battery chargers.

This finding is greater than minor because the finding affects the Mitigating System Cornerstone objective of ensuring equipment availability, reliability, and capability of systems that respond to initiating events to prevent undesirable consequences. Systems used to mitigate the effects of a station blackout could be adversely effected if a source of alternating current power was not restored to the affected unit within one hour. The finding is of very low safety significance (Green) because the finding is not a design or qualification deficiency, does not represent an actual loss of safety function of a train or system, and does not screen as risk significant due to a seismic, fire, flooding, or severe weather initiating event.

Inspection Report# : [2003009\(pdf\)](#)



Significance: Sep 27, 2003

Identified By: NRC

Item Type: NCV NonCited Violation

Did Not Follow Chemistry Procedure CH-1010

The inspectors identified a finding of very low safety significance that is also a NCV of TS 6.8.1, "Procedures," because chemistry staff did not follow procedures. Specifically, spray pond water samples were not analyzed for soluble manganese within the required weekly frequency and when manganese in the spray pond water was above 100 parts-per-billion (ppb), the actions specified in the procedure were not taken.

The finding is more than minor because it is similar to example 4.a in App. E of NRC IMC 0612. This finding was determined to have very low safety significance by Phase 1 of the Reactor Inspection Findings for At-Power Situations Significance Determination Process because the performance deficiency did not result in a loss of safety function and is not potentially risk significant due to a seismic, flood, fire, or severe weather initiating event.

The inspectors also identified that a contributing cause of this finding involved a human performance error because neither a chemistry technician nor the technician's supervisor followed the steps prescribed by the procedure.

Inspection Report# : [2003004\(pdf\)](#)



Significance: Jun 28, 2003

Identified By: NRC

Item Type: FIN Finding

Performing Preventive Maintenance Prior to Required Surveillance Testing of Recirculation Pump Trip Breakers and Safety-Related Battery Chargers

The insp. identified a finding of very low significance (Green) because Exelon's practice of performing preventive maintenance prior to required surveillance testing of recirc pump trip breakers and safety-related battery chargers masked the as-found conditions of these components, and this practice had not been evaluated.

The finding is considered more than minor because it affected the ability to detect component degradation which would adversely impact the reliability of the RPT breakers and battery chargers to respond to initiating events and prevent undesirable consequences. This finding is of very low safety significance because it involved inadequate testing and did not degrade the capability of these components to perform their safety functions.

The inspectors also identified that a contributing cause of this finding was related to the cross-cutting area of Problem Identification and Resolution. After the inspectors noted the MSIV preconditioning issue in February 2003, Exelon's corrective action included a review of other outage-related activities for unacceptable preconditioning. Exelon's corrective action was narrow in scope and did not identify the RPT breaker and battery charger preconditioning issues.

Inspection Report# : [2003003\(pdf\)](#)

Barrier Integrity



Significance: Sep 27, 2003

Identified By: NRC

Item Type: NCV NonCited Violation

Did Not Meet 10CFR 55.53(fg)(2) When Reactivating Senior Operators to Support Fuel Handling

The inspectors identified a non-cited violation of 10CFR55.53(f)(2) regarding the licensee's method used to reactivate senior operator licenses to support refueling. The operator licenses were reactivated without the required direct supervision being present during the shift under-instruction time.

This finding was determined to be more than minor but of very low safety significance. It is more than minor because it is similar to example 2h in App. E of IMC 0612. The performance deficiency is related to operator license conditions. The performance deficiency involved more than 20% of the senior operator license reactivations to support refueling operations not meeting the requirements of 10CFR55.53(f)(2). Accordingly, the performance deficiency was determined to be of very low safety significance.

Inspection Report# : [2003004\(pdf\)](#)



Significance: Sep 27, 2003

Identified By: NRC

Item Type: NCV NonCited Violation

Performed Core Alterations Without Maintaining Secondary Containment Integrity

A self-revealing NCV of TS 3.6.5.1.2 was identified because Exelon did not maintain refueling area secondary containment integrity while performing core alterations during a refueling outage.

The finding is more than minor because the issue was associated with the human performance attribute of the Barrier Integrity cornerstone, and it affected the cornerstone objective. The Barrier Integrity cornerstone objective was affected because secondary containment functionality was not maintained when required by TSs. This finding was determined to be of very low safety significance (Green) by NRC IMC 0609, App. G, Shutdown Operations Significance Determination Process. The plant conditions while secondary containment was breached did not require a phase 2 assessment and therefore screened as Green per the Appendix G, Section 1 guidance.

The inspectors also noted that a contributing cause of this finding was related to a human performance error because operators did not properly verify TSs compliance when breaching secondary containment.

Inspection Report# : [2003004\(pdf\)](#)



Significance: Jun 28, 2003

Identified By: NRC

Item Type: NCV NonCited Violation

Exelon's Main Steam Isolation Valve Stroke Time Test Methodology

The inspectors identified a finding of very low significance (Green) that is also a violation of 10 CFR 50 Appendix B, Criterion XI, "Test Control," because Exelon's MSIV stroke time test procedure did not include sufficient steps to assure that, when the MSIVs are in-service in Operational Conditions 1, the MSIV full closure times will meet TS requirements.

The finding was considered more than minor, in that the issue was associated with the Maintain Functionality of Containment Procedure Quality attribute of the Barrier Integrity cornerstone, and it affected the cornerstone objective. The Barrier Integrity cornerstone objective was affected because the inadequate testing procedures adversely affect assurance that the containment would protect the public from radionuclide releases caused by accidents or events. This finding was also associated with the Procedure Quality attribute of the Mitigating Systems cornerstone, and it affected the cornerstone objective. The cornerstone objective was affected because the testing did not ensure the reliability of the MSIV's to respond to initiating events to prevent undesirable consequences.

This finding was determined to have very low safety significance (Green) by Phase 2 of the Reactor Inspection Findings for At-Power Situations Significance Determination Process. This finding was determined to be of very low safety significance because the issue involved inadequate testing and did not degrade the MSIVs capability to perform its safety function. Therefore, no mitigation equipment or sequences in Phase 2 were adversely impacted.

Inspection Report# : [2003003\(pdf\)](#)

Emergency Preparedness

Significance: SL-IV Sep 27, 2003

Identified By: NRC

Item Type: NCV NonCited Violation

Did Not Perform a 10 CFR 50.54(q) Review Resulting in Removal of a Provision Without Prior NRC Approval

The inspector identified a SL IV NCV of 10 CFR 50.54(q) because the licensee decreased the effectiveness of its emergency plan in one area by removing a provision to provide volunteer bus drivers to two school districts within the 10 mile Emergency Planning Zone for evacuating students during a radiological event. The change was implemented without NRC approval.

Changing emergency plan provisions without prior NRC approval impacts the NRC's ability to perform its regulatory function and is therefore processed through traditional enforcement as specified in Section IV.A.3 of the Enforcement Policy, issued May 1, 2000 (65 FR 25388).

According to Supplement VIII of the Enforcement Policy, this finding was determined to be a SL IV violation because it involved a failure to meet a requirement not directly related to assessment and notification. This NCV was also determined to have very low safety significance since Exelon had maintained a list of volunteers that would have been able to perform the function if needed.

Inspection Report# : [2003004\(pdf\)](#)

Significance: SL-IV Sep 27, 2003

Identified By: NRC

Item Type: NCV NonCited Violation

Did Not Retain a Record of the 10 CFR 50.54(q) Review of the Deleted Portions of the Emergency Plan

The inspector identified a SL IV non-cited violation of 10 CFR 50.54(q). During the implementation of a new Standard Emergency Plan, Exelon did not retain a record that determined whether a decrease-in-effectiveness had or had not occurred when Exelon generated the new Standard Emergency Plan that deleted portions of the previous Combined Limerick/Peach Bottom Emergency Plan.

Changing emergency plan provisions without documentation impacts the NRC's ability to perform its regulatory function and is therefore processed through traditional enforcement as specified in Section IV.A.3 of the Enforcement Policy, issued May 1, 2000 (65 FR 25388). According to Supplement VIII of the Enforcement Policy, this finding was determined to be a SLI IV because it involved a failure to meet a requirement not directly related to assessment and notification.

Inspection Report# : [2003004\(pdf\)](#)

Occupational Radiation Safety

Public Radiation Safety

Physical Protection

Miscellaneous

Last modified : May 05, 2004