

Nine Mile Point 1

3Q/2005 Plant Inspection Findings

Initiating Events

Mitigating Systems

Significance:  Jun 30, 2005

Identified By: NRC

Item Type: NCV NonCited Violation

Multiple Examples of Cable Splices Inside Unit 1 Drywell That Were Not Environmentally Qualified

The inspectors identified a non-cited violation (NCV) for multiple types of cable splices at Unit 1 that were not environmentally qualified. 10 CFR 50.49(f) requires that each item of electric equipment important to safety within the scope of 10 CFR 50.49(b) must be qualified by one of several methods described in that section. As of April 2005, there were 11 Okonite cable splices, 47 Raychem splices and one barrel-type butt splice in the Unit 1 drywell that were not environmentally qualified because these splices did not conform to the qualified configurations described in Procedure N1-EMP-GEN-003, "Insulating Medium and Low Voltage Power Connections Control and Instrumentation Cables." These cable splices were used in the control circuitry of motor-operated valves and solenoid-operated valves that were required for accident mitigation and the circuitry of temperature instruments that were required for accident monitoring. This electric equipment is within the scope of 10 CFR 50.49(b).

The finding is greater than minor because it is associated with the equipment performance attribute of the Mitigating Systems cornerstone and affects the cornerstone objective of equipment reliability. The issue was a qualification deficiency that the licensee had evaluated in accordance with Generic Letter (GL) 91-18, and was determined to be of very low safety significance (Green) because the unqualified cable splices were determined to be either operable (i.e., insignificant leakage currents when subject to accident environment), or in a condition where the function of the inoperable cable splice (reactor vent valve unable to open) could be bypassed by an alternate mitigating method (alternate reactor vent path) as prescribed in an existing emergency operating procedure (EOP) to achieve similar accident mitigation results. The unqualified cable splices were replaced by qualified ones during the April refueling outage. The inspectors identified that a contributing cause of this finding was related to the cross-cutting area of problem identification and resolution. The relevant causal factor was problem identification because the nonconforming splices in the drywell were not identified by the engineering staff in a timely manner.

Inspection Report# : [2005003\(pdf\)](#)

Significance:  Mar 31, 2005

Identified By: NRC

Item Type: NCV NonCited Violation

Failure to Perform a 50.59 Screen During Development of an Emergency Condenser Capacity Test

The inspectors identified a non-cited violation (NCV) of Unit 1 TS 6.4.1.a concerning an inadequate procedure review and approval process related to the development of procedure N1-ST-V19, "Emergency Cooling System - Heat Removal Capability Test at High Power." Specifically, the licensee incorrectly determined that all aspects of the activity were controlled by other processes, thereby negating the requirement for a 10 CFR 50.59 screen. Subsequently it was determined that the procedure also contained changes that affect operation and control of other systems and therefore that a 10 CFR 50.59 screen should have been completed. The performance deficiency associated with this event is a failure to perform a 10 CFR 50.59 screen when one was required.

The finding is greater than minor because it is associated with the Mitigating Systems Cornerstone attribute of procedure quality and affected the associated cornerstone objective of ensuring the capability of the emergency condenser system, a core decay heat removal system, to respond to initiating events to prevent undesirable consequences. The finding was determined to be of very low safety significance in accordance with phase 1 of the SDP because it was not a design or qualification deficiency, did not represent an actual loss of the emergency condenser system safety function, and was not potentially risk significant due to seismic, flood, fire or weather related initiating events.

Inspection Report# : [2005002\(pdf\)](#)

Significance:  Mar 31, 2005

Identified By: NRC

Item Type: NCV NonCited Violation

Failure to Adequately Assess Risk Associated with Maintenance on the Control Room Ventilation System

The inspectors identified a non-cited violation (NCV) of 10 CFR 50.65(a)(4) for the failure to adequately assess the increase in risk that resulted from maintenance on the Unit 1 control room ventilation system. Specifically, no assessment of risk was performed prior to opening doors which served as barriers between the mild environment of the control room and the potential harsh environment of the Turbine Building resulting from a high energy line break (HELB). The performance deficiency associated with this event is failure to adequately assess the

increased risk from a HELB in the Turbine Building with doors in the HELB boundary open to the Control Room.

The finding is more than minor because if left uncorrected, it would become a more significant safety concern in that actions to assess and manage increases in risk may not have been implemented. The finding was determined to be of very low safety significance in accordance with phase 3 of the SDP because it resulted in a change in core damage frequency (CDF) significantly below the green/white risk threshold.

Inspection Report# : [2005002\(pdf\)](#)

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Significance: Dec 31, 2004

Identified By: NRC

Item Type: NCV NonCited Violation

Failure of the Nine Mile Point Unit 1 & 2 Plant-Referenced Simulator to Demonstrate Expected Plant Response to Operator Input and to Transient Conditions

An NRC identified finding for failure of the NMP Unit 1 and Unit 2 simulators to comply with 10 CFR 55.46(c)(1), "Plant-referenced simulators." The NCV involved two examples of the failure of Nine Mile Point simulators to correctly demonstrate the expected plant response to two separate events, one at each NMP unit.

This finding is more than minor because it affects the human performance (human error) attribute of the Mitigating Systems Cornerstone. The finding is of very low safety significance (Green) because the simulators' uncorrected model discrepancies did not have an adverse impact on operator actions such that safety-related equipment was made inoperable during normal operations or in response to a plant transient.

Inspection Report# : [2004005\(pdf\)](#)

Barrier Integrity

Emergency Preparedness

Occupational Radiation Safety

Public Radiation Safety

Physical Protection

[Physical Protection](#) information not publicly available.

Miscellaneous

Last modified : November 30, 2005