



U.S.NRC

UNITED STATES NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

Protecting People and the Environment

RIII Operator Incident

2012 OL Workshop

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Region III – Lisle, IL

Overview

On October 23, 2010, at approximately 6AM (shortly before shift turnover), the on-duty at-the-controls (ATC) reactor operator (RO), after becoming upset with a non-shift licensed operator, and left his watch station without conducting a proper turnover **or** obtaining permission from Control Room Supervisor (CRS).

Overview (Continued)

Once discovered, the NRC:

- Investigated the facts of what took place and why.
- Characterized the violations that occurred.
- Considered enforcement alternatives with OGC & HQ.
- Presented the violations and options to the licensee.
- Planned and conducted both ADR sessions
- Wrote orders for both ADR agreements.
- Monitored ADR order implementations (On-going).
- Close-out inspection upon completion (TBD).

The Incident

- **The unit was shut down, but had recently been in mid-loop operations.**
- **Tension between the ATC operator and a non-shift RO performing a special test erupted, resulting in the ATC leaving the Control room for 10 minutes.**
- **The CRS immediately assigned the BOP to the ATC position.**

The Incident (Continued)

- **Upon returning, the ATC was allowed to reassume his watch.**
- **The ATC also returned the following night, and stood the BOP watch “without incident.”**
- **No CAP was written for 42 hours.**
- **Once Management and the NRC were informed, the ATC was removed from watch standing.**

Enforcement Policy – SL III Violation:

1. A licensed operator, or a senior operator actively performing the functions covered by that position, is determined to be any of the following:

(c) in noncompliance with a condition stated on the individual's license;

(Requirements of EN-OP-115, Conduct of Operations, were not satisfied, and following procedures is a license condition)

AND/OR

2. A licensed operator, or a senior operator actively performing the functions covered by that position, is inattentive to duty;

(Leaving an assigned watch-station without permission or turnover is being inattentive to duty)

NRC Actions

- RIII was informed through the Allegation process by DRP/RIO.
- The subsequent OI investigation substantiated willfulness/deliberateness.
- Choice letters were given to both the individual and the licensee. The individual was **NOT** given the option to respond in writing.

NRC Actions (Continued)

- **Both chose ADR, which was completed successfully.**
- **Agreed upon actions were documented in orders, and are in the process of being completed.**
- **Once all actions are completed, the NRC will perform an onsite follow-up inspection to review the completion of the corrective actions.**

Licensee Actions (in progress)

ATC RO:

- Complete ALL Licensee-initiated Corrective Actions:
 - Extensive Interviews and Evaluations
 - Specific Training
 - 40 Hours On-Shift Training with ALL 5 Shift Manager's Crews (200 hours total)
- In addition, complete the additional NRC (ADR) requirement:
 - Write and submit a PROS article for publication.

Licensee Actions (in progress)

Licensee:

- Complete Licensee-initiated Corrective Actions:
 - Communicate to ALL operators
 - Train ALL operators (resolving conflicts and Conduct of Operations)
 - Comprehensive assessment by management
 - ATC Remedial actions
 - Train Operations management (FFD)
 - Simulator Training (Stressful situations)

Licensee Actions (in progress)

Licensee:

- In addition, complete the additional NRC (ADR) requirements:
 - Develop a case study of the events
 - Letter to each Licensed operator in the company
 - Present lessons learned at an industry forum
 - Review 3 fleet procedures for needed revisions
 - Conduct an independent safety culture assessment
 - Review the planning of the next refueling outage

***Thank you for
your attention.***

Any questions?