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LaSalle County Station
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Nuclear

June 6, 2003

10 CFR 50.73

United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Attention: Document Control Desk
Washington, D.C. 20555

LaSalle County Station, Unit 1
Facility Operating License No. NPF-11
NRC Docket No. 50-373

Subject: Licensee Event Report

In accordance with 10 CFR 50.73(a)(2)(i)(B), Exelon Generation Company, (EGC), LLC, is submitting Licensee Event Report Number 03-001-00, Docket No. 050-373.

Should you have any questions concerning this letter, please contact Mr. Glen Kaegi, Regulatory Assurance Manager, at (815) 415-2800.

Respectfully,



Susan Landahl
Plant Manager
LaSalle County Station

Attachment: Licensee Event Report

cc: Regional Administrator - NRC Region III
NRC Senior Resident Inspector - LaSalle County Station

JE22

NRC FORM 366 (7-2001)		U.S. NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION		APPROVED BY OMB NO. 3150-0104 Estimated burden per response to comply with this mandatory information collection request: 50 hrs. Reported lessons learned are incorporated into the licensing process and fed back to industry. Send comments regarding burden estimate to the Records Management Branch (T-6 E6), U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, DC 20555-0001, and by internet e:mail to hjs1@nrc.gov , and to the Desk Officer, Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, NOEB-10202 (3150-0104), Office of Management and Budget, Washington, DC 20503. If a means used to impose information collection does not display a currently valid OMB control number, the NRC may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, the information collection.						
LICENSEE EVENT REPORT (LER) (See reverse for required number of digits/characters for each block)										
1. FACILITY NAME LaSalle County Station, Unit 1			2. DOCKET NUMBER 05000373		3. PAGE 1 of 3					
4. TITLE Enforcement Discretion Required To Repair Division 2 125 VDC Battery Charger										
5. EVENT DATE			6. LER NUMBER		7. REPORT DATE	8. OTHER FACILITIES INVOLVED				
MO	DAY	YEAR	YEAR	SEQUENTIAL NUMBER	REV NO	FACILITY NAME	DOCKET NUMBER			
4	9	2003	2003	- 001	- 00	06 06 03	FACILITY NAME	DOCKET NUMBER		
9. OPERATING MODE		1	11. THIS REPORT IS SUBMITTED PURSUANT TO THE REQUIREMENTS OF 10 CFR §: (Check all that apply)							
10. POWER LEVEL		100								
		<input type="checkbox"/> 20.2201(b)	<input type="checkbox"/> 20.2203(a)(3)(ii)	<input type="checkbox"/> 50.73(a)(2)(ii)(B)	<input type="checkbox"/> 50.73(a)(2)(ix)(A)					
		<input type="checkbox"/> 20.2201(d)	<input type="checkbox"/> 20.2203(a)(4)	<input type="checkbox"/> 50.73(a)(2)(iii)	<input type="checkbox"/> 50.73(a)(2)(x)					
		<input type="checkbox"/> 20.2203(a)(1)	<input type="checkbox"/> 50.36(c)(1)(i)(A)	<input type="checkbox"/> 50.73(a)(2)(iv)(A)	<input type="checkbox"/> 73.71(a)(4)					
		<input type="checkbox"/> 20.2203(a)(2)(i)	<input type="checkbox"/> 50.36(c)(1)(ii)(A)	<input type="checkbox"/> 50.73(a)(2)(v)(A)	<input type="checkbox"/> 73.71(a)(5)					
		<input type="checkbox"/> 20.2203(a)(2)(ii)	<input type="checkbox"/> 50.36(c)(2)	<input type="checkbox"/> 50.73(a)(2)(v)(B)	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER					
		<input type="checkbox"/> 20.2203(a)(2)(iii)	<input type="checkbox"/> 50.46(a)(3)(ii)	<input type="checkbox"/> 50.73(a)(2)(v)(C)	Specify in Abstract below or in NRC Form 366A					
		<input type="checkbox"/> 20.2203(a)(2)(iv)	<input type="checkbox"/> 50.73(a)(2)(i)(A)	<input type="checkbox"/> 50.73(a)(2)(v)(D)						
		<input type="checkbox"/> 20.2203(a)(2)(v)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 50.73(a)(2)(i)(B)	<input type="checkbox"/> 50.73(a)(2)(vii)						
		<input type="checkbox"/> 20.2203(a)(2)(vi)	<input type="checkbox"/> 50.73(a)(2)(i)(C)	<input type="checkbox"/> 50.73(a)(2)(viii)(A)						
		<input type="checkbox"/> 20.2203(a)(3)(i)	<input type="checkbox"/> 50.73(a)(2)(ii)(A)	<input type="checkbox"/> 50.73(a)(2)(viii)(B)						
12. LICENSEE CONTACT FOR THIS LER										
NAME Al Parker, Plant Engineering				TELEPHONE NUMBER (Include Area Code) (815) 415-2657						
13. COMPLETE ONE LINE FOR EACH COMPONENT FAILURE DESCRIBED IN THIS REPORT										
CAUSE	SYSTEM	COMPONENT	MANU-FACTURER	REPORTABLE TO EPIX	CAUSE	SYSTEM	COMPONENT	MANU-FACTURER	REPORTABLE TO EPIX	
14. SUPPLEMENTAL REPORT EXPECTED					15. EXPECTED SUBMISSION DATE					
YES (If yes, complete EXPECTED SUBMISSION DATE)				<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO	MONTH		DAY		YEAR	

16. ABSTRACT (Limit to 1400 spaces, i.e., approximately fifteen single-space typewritten lines)

On April 7, 2003, oscillations were observed in the Unit 1 Division 2 125 VDC battery terminal voltage. The system remained operable because the Technical Specification (TS) Surveillance Requirements (SR) were still met.

Repairs to the 125 VDC battery charger were estimated to take 12 hours, which was in excess of the two hours of system inoperability allowed by TS. In order to repair the battery charger while precluding a shutdown transient on the plant, a Notice of Enforcement Discretion was requested from the NRC, which was granted on April 9, 2003.

Repairs began at 1742 hours on April 9, 2003. Planned work was completed and the system was returned to operable status at 0407 hours on April 10, 2003, after 10 hours and 25 minutes of inoperability. The voltage oscillations continued, although at a reduced level. On April 28, 2003, the 125 VDC feed to fire protection inverter 1FP01E was isolated and the oscillations stopped. Troubleshooting of 1FP01E continues.

The safety significance of the additional 12 hours of Division 2 inoperability granted was minimal, since the Division 1 and 3 125 VDC subsystems remained operable.

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17. NARRATIVE (If more space is required, use additional copies of NRC Form 366A)

PLANT AND SYSTEM IDENTIFICATION

General Electric - Boiling Water Reactor, 3489 Megawatts Thermal Rated Core Power

A. CONDITION PRIOR TO EVENT

Unit(s): 1 Event Date: 4/9/03 Event Time: 1742
Reactor Mode(s): 1 Power Level(s): 100
Mode(s) Name: Run

B. DESCRIPTION OF EVENT

On April 7, 2003, Unit 1 Division 2 125 VDC (DC) [EJ] battery terminal voltage was observed to be oscillating by 1-2 VDC, and current was oscillating by approximately 30 amps. The Division 2 125 VDC system remained operable, because battery terminal voltage stayed above the Technical Specification (TS) Surveillance Requirement (SR) 3.8.4.1 limit of 128 VDC, and the TS SR 3.8.4.6 requirement to supply the required amperage for various system voltages at specified times were not challenged.

Troubleshooting determined that repairs to the battery charger were required, which would include replacing the charger sensing, amplifier and firing modules. A temporary non-class 1E battery charger would be used during the maintenance activity, which would render the Division 2 125 VDC electrical power distribution subsystem inoperable. An estimated 12 hours was needed to complete the repairs.

TS 3.8.4 Condition A allows the Division 1 or 2 125 VDC electrical power subsystem to be inoperable for two hours. If operability cannot be restored, then Required Action E.1 requires the unit to be in Mode 3 in 12 hours and Required Action E.2 requires the unit to be in Mode 4 in 36 hours. TS 3.8.7 Condition B allows Division 1 or 2 125 VDC electrical power subsystem to be inoperable for two hours. If operability cannot be restored, then Required Action D.1 requires the unit to be in Mode 3 in 12 hours and Required Action D.2 requires the unit to be in Mode 4 in 36 hours.

To repair the battery charger without placing the unit in a shutdown transient, a one-time relief from TS 3.8.4, Required Action A.1 and TS 3.8.7 Required Action B.1 was requested to extend the Completion Time an additional 12 hours. This request was verbally transmitted to members of the NRC staff on April 9, 2003, at 1200 hours, with approval being verbally granted at 1358 hours.

Repair of the Unit 1 Division 2 battery charger was initiated at 1742 hours on April 9, 2003. Following completion of the proposed work, post maintenance testing (PMT) was completed acceptably, and the charger was reconnected to the DC bus. Upon picking up the load of the DC bus, voltage and current fluctuations resumed, although at a reduced level. An operability review was conducted, and because TS SR 3.8.4.1 and 3.8.4.6 were not challenged by the oscillations, the Unit 1 Division 2 125 VDC system was declared operable at 0407 hours on April 10, 2003.

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17. NARRATIVE (If more space is required, use additional copies of NRC Form 366A)

The Unit 1 Division 2 125 VDC electrical power distribution subsystem was inoperable for 10 hours and 25 minutes. Since this was in excess of the two hours allowed by the TS Required Actions identified above, this event is reportable under 10 CFR 50.73(a)(2)(i)(B) as an operation or condition prohibited by the plant's Technical Specifications.

On April 11, 2003, a written Request for Notice of Enforcement Discretion was submitted to the Commission.

C. CAUSE OF EVENT

Following the repairs performed on April 9, 2003, the voltage and current oscillations were reduced. On April 28, 2003, the 125 VDC feed to fire protection inverter 1FP01E was isolated and the oscillations stopped. Troubleshooting of 1FP01E continues.

D. SAFETY ANALYSIS

The safety significance of allowing continued operation for 10 hours and 25 minutes with an inoperable 125 VDC battery charger and electrical power distribution system was minimal. The redundant Division 1 and Division 3 subsystems of Class 1E 125 VDC power were operable throughout the event.

E. CORRECTIVE ACTIONS

The DC feed to 1FP01E has been removed. Troubleshooting of the 1FP01E continues.

F. PREVIOUS OCCURRENCES

A review of Licensee Event Reports over the previous 10 years found no previous or similar occurrences.

G. COMPONENT FAILURE DATA

Troubleshooting of 1FP01E is in progress.