



Region III Fire Protection Utilities Group Meeting

Dariusz Szwarc
Reactor Inspector, Region III
June 26, 2012



Overview

- Inspection Findings
- Monticello Sprinkler Piping Blockage
- Flammable Gas Bottles
- Upcoming Inspections



2011 Inspection Findings

- Monticello IR 2011008 & 2011408
 - Hydrogen Bottles
 - Maintenance of Air Intake Smoke Detector
 - B.5.b Finding
- Kewaunee IR 2011008
 - Hydrogen Bottles
- LaSalle IR 2011009
 - No Findings



2011 Inspection Findings

- Dresden 2011008
 - Transient Combustibles
 - Inoperable Suppression System
 - Battery Corrosion
 - Operators and Safe Shutdown Procedures
 - Safe Shutdown Procedure Implementation (URI)



2012 Inspection Findings

- Duane Arnold IR 2012007
 - Hydrogen Bottles
- Perry IR 2012008
 - Transient Combustibles
 - Spray Nozzle Design Density
 - Sprinkler Piping Slope
 - Sequential Timing on Fire Pumps
 - Inadequate Detection
- Prairie Island

Monticello Sprinkler Piping Blockage





System Description

- Intake Structure Dry-Pipe Pre-Action Sprinkler System
- Pressurized with Air
- Piping is Carbon Steel
- Installed per NFPA 13 - 1983 ed.



Sprinkler Piping Blockage

- Blocked Inspector Test Valve
- Blockage Discovered Upstream of Valve
- Reported to NRC Under 10 CFR 50.72 – System Declared Non-Functional



Monticello – Corrective Actions

- Flushed all sprinkler piping in the intake structure
- Replaced segments of pipe
- Replaced sprinklers
- Verification via video boroscope and radiography
- Extent of condition – EDG rooms



Licensee's Root Cause

- Root Cause
 - Improper slope
- Contributing Causes
 - Less than adequate risk recognition
 - Inadequate operating experience evaluation
 - Prioritization of fire protection system



What Happened?

- Blockage
 - Pipe corrosion byproducts
- Causes
 - Inadequate draining
 - Periodic wetting and drying



Prior Identification Opportunities

- 2007 – Sprinkler Blockage in EDG Room
 - Extent of condition for Intake Structure
- 2009 – Work on RHRSW System
 - Blockage in piping
- 2009 – Failed PMT Documented as Passed



Testing Requirements

- NFPA 13 – 1983 ed.
 - Required hydrostatic test on new system
- NFPA 25 – 2011 ed.
 - Table 5.1.1.2 requires internal obstruction inspection every five years
 - Section 14.3.3 requires flushing if obstructions are found
 - Most licensees not committed to NFPA 25



License Renewal Requirements

- Aging Management Program
 - OPEX reviews for fire water
 - Seven instances of OPEX
- Aging not Identified as Contributing Cause in Root Cause Evaluation
- Requirement to flow water out of inspector test valve added in 2010



Monticello SIT (IR 2011010) Findings

- NRC-Identified
 - Aging Management Program
- Licensee Identified
 - Inadequate slope
 - Failure to take corrective actions (flush)
 - Failure to follow procedure
 - Failure to document and evaluate PMT results



Perry Sprinkler Pipe Corrosion

- Pipe could not be drained
- Piping was galvanized

Flammable Gas Bottles



Hydrogen Bottles – Safety Info

- **Material Safety Data Sheet (MSDS)**
 - Poses immediate fire and explosive hazard when concentration exceed 4%
 - Burns with invisible flame
 - Separate from oxygen cylinders by a minimum of 20 feet
 - Never insert an object (wrench) into valve cap openings
- **Plant Safety Handbooks**
 - Separate from oxygen cylinders by a minimum of 20 feet
 - Cylinder valves shall be closed when work is finished
 - A wrench shall not be used to open cylinder valves
- **NFPA 50A (Standard for Gaseous Hydrogen Systems at Consumer Sites)**
- **Cylinder Tags**



Closure of Unresolved Items

- Dresden, LaSalle, Quad Cities
- Clinton
- Palisades



Upcoming Inspections

- 2012
 - Braidwood
 - Quad Cities
 - Palisades
- 2013
 - Byron
 - Davis-Besse
 - DC Cook
 - Point Beach



THANK YOU