

CATEGORY 1

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 AUTH. NAME AUTHOR AFFILIATION
 MECREDY, R.C. Rochester Gas & Electric Corp.
 RECIP. NAME RECIPIENT AFFILIATION
 VISSING, G.S.

SUBJECT: Special rept: on 970225, declared SPING air Ejector Radiation
 Monitor R-15A inoperable due to calibr activities. Replaced
 detector & cable for Channel 9, tested satisfactorily &
 returned R-15A to service.

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ROBERT C. MECREDY
Vice President
Nuclear Operations

March 24, 1997

U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Document Control Desk
Attn: Guy S. Vissing
Project Directorate I-1
Washington, D.C. 20555

Subject: Thirty (30) Day Special Report
Inoperable Radiation Monitor
R.E. Ginna Nuclear Power Plant
Docket No. 50-244

Dear Mr. Vissing:

Radiation Accident Monitoring Instrument R-15A was inoperable for more than seven days. In accordance with the Ginna Station Offsite Dose Calculation Manual (ODCM) Procedure CHA-RETS-ODCM, Section III.A.2.a.iv. and Table III-2, the following constitutes a Special Report outlining the action taken, the cause of the inoperability and the plans and schedule for restoring the system to operable status.

On February 25, 1997, at 0942 EST, SPING Air Ejector Radiation Monitor R-15A was declared inoperable for calibration, per calibration procedure CPI-RAD-MON-SPING4. This calibration normally takes more than one day to perform.

During calibration activities on February 26, R-15A Channel 9 (high range noble gas) was exhibiting inconsistent readings. Further examination revealed a loose connector between the Channel 9 detector and the junction box. Tightening the connector seemed to correct the problem.

The calibration continued over the next two days, and no other anomalies were noted. On Friday, February 28, when the calibration involving the check sources began, Channel 9 again exhibited inconsistent readings. Resolution of this problem required replacement of the detector and cable for Channel 9. These activities could be completed in less than one day. Thus, overtime was not considered necessary, and further work was suspended for the weekend.

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On Monday, March 3, a corrective work package was prepared which provided directions to replace the Channel 9 detector and cable. After completing the corrective work and preparing to restore R-15A to service, I&C noticed that another R-15A channel (Channel 8, gamma background) was not functioning as expected. Correction of this problem was estimated to occur after the 7 day clock expired, even with around the clock efforts. The decision was made to defer corrective work until the next day, which would extend R-15A inoperability beyond 7 days.

On March 4, the corrective work package was modified to include the replacement of Channel 8 detector. This replacement proceeded more expeditiously than expected. After this detector was replaced, calibration was completed on the remainder of the R-15A system. R-15A was tested satisfactorily. R-15A was documented as returned to service at 1049 EST on March 4, 67 minutes past the 7 day limit.

Very truly yours,



Robert C. Mecredy

xc: Mr. Guy S. Vissing (Mail Stop 14C7)
PWR Project Directorate I-1
Washington, D.C. 20555

U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Region I
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Ginna Senior Resident Inspector

