

REGULATORY INFORMATION DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM (RIDS)

ACCESSION NBR: 8409210198 DOC. DATE: 84/09/14. NOTARIZED: NO DOCKET #
 FACIL: 50-397 WPPSS Nuclear Project, Unit 2, Washington Public Power 05000397
 AUTH. NAME: SORENSEN, G.C. AUTHOR AFFILIATION: Washington Public Power Supply System
 RECIP. NAME: SCHWENCER, A. RECIPIENT AFFILIATION: Licensing Branch 2

SUBJECT: Discuss GE recommendations re Hatch Unit 2 event concerning large crack in torus vent header due to brittle fracture, per GE 840214 Info Ltr 402. Only Recommendations 1 & 2 apply as sys not yet used to inert containment.

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NOTES:

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Washington Public Power Supply System

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September 14, 1984
G02-84-512

Docket No. 50-397

Director of Nuclear Reactor Regulation
Attention: Mr. A. Schwencer, Chief
Licensing Branch No. 2
Division of Licensing
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, D.C. 20555

Dear Mr. Schwencer:

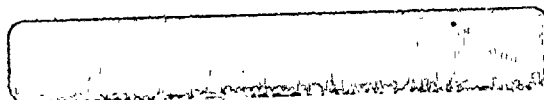
Subject: NUCLEAR PLANT NO. 2
EVALUATION OF INERTING SYSTEM DESIGN/OPERATION

Reference: General Electric Service Information Letter Number 402
(SIL No. 402) dated February 14, 1984

In the reference document (SIL No. 402) an event at an operating BWR/4 (Hatch 2) resulted in a large crack in the vent header in the torus (Mark I containment) which was attributed to brittle fracture caused by the injection of cold nitrogen into the torus during inerting. As a result of this, General Electric (GE) recommended that certain actions be taken by all BWR owners with Mark I and II containment systems. The purpose of these actions was to confirm that:

- 1) Equipment damage had not occurred; and
- 2) Inerting system operation was proper; and
- 3) Damage will not occur in the future.

Of the five recommendations contained in GE's SIL, only 1 and 2 apply to WNP-2 because the system has not yet been used to inert containment. With regards to Recommendation No. 1, the Supply System has evaluated the inerting system design and determined that the system is adequately designed to prevent the injection of cold nitrogen into the containment.



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EVALUATION OF INERTING SYSTEM DESIGN/OPERATION

With regard to Recommendation No. 2, the Supply System has not had any operating experience to date, but the pre-operational testing of the system was satisfactorily performed and accepted with only minor modifications. As the result of an internal review of procedures related to this system, Operations has committed to revise two procedures to provide added assurance that the system remains above 0°F. In addition, during the first few inerting operations, a representative from the Nuclear Safety and Assurance Group (NSAG) will be present, and will work with Operations in evaluating the need for local alarms on low temperature in the N₂ piping. At this time the Supply System does not plan to take any actions other than those identified above.

Should you have any questions, please contact Mr. P. L. Powell, Manager, WNP-2 Licensing.

Very truly yours,



G. C. Sorensen, Manager
Regulatory Programs

tmh

cc: R Auluck - NRC
WS Chin - BPA
JB Martin - NRC RV
AD Toth - NRC Site

