

# LICENSEE EVENT REPORT

CONTROL BLOCK: 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9

Surry Power Station, Unit

Docket No: 50-281

Report No: 78-038/X-1

Event Date: 10-30-78

Boric Acid Flow Path Blockage

1. Description of Event:

While attempting normal blending action, the control room meter, monitored by the operator, indicated a no flow condition existed in a line leading to the blender. This situation is contrary to Technical Specification 3.2.c.4 which requires two (2) flow paths to the core when the unit is critical. The event is reportable in accordance with Technical Specification 6.6.2.b.(2).

2. Probable Consequences/Status of Redundant Systems

During this period, a redundant flow path to the core from the refueling water storage tanks was available, therefore the health and safety of the public were not affected.

3. Cause:

Upon investigation, it was discovered that the line had become plugged with a crystallized mass of boron which had apparently built up over a period of time at an elbow in the line.

4. Immediate Corrective Action:

A Maintenance Report was initiated to rectify the flow loss, and the obstruction was dislodged, allowing flow to return to normal.

While the problem was being rectified, rampdown of the reactor was commenced and continued until flow was again established, at which time power was escalated. It was determined that the heat tracing had been functioning within the limits required both prior to removal of the blockage and once the problem was resolved.

5. Scheduled Corrective Action:

None

6. Action Taken to Prevent Recurrence:

Administrative controls have been established requiring blending action periodically, to assure flow in the system.

7. Generic Implications:

Historically, similar flow restrictions have been randomly experienced on both units.