

Initial Telephone
Report Date: July 20, 1979

Date of
Occurrence: July 19, 1979

Initial Written
Report Date: July 20, 1979

Time of
Occurrence: 2325

OYSTER CREEK NUCLEAR GENERATING STATION
FORKED RIVER, NEW JERSEY 08731

Reportable Occurrence
Report No. 50-219/79/23-1P

IDENTIFICATION
OF OCCURRENCE:

A second reactor recirculating pump was removed from service to perform corrective maintenance on the recirculating pump generator outboard collector ring.

This event is considered to be a reportable occurrence as defined in the Technical Specifications, paragraph 6.9.2.a.(2).

CONDITIONS PRIOR
TO OCCURRENCE:

Steady State Power	Routine Shutdown
Hot Standby	Operation
Cold Shutdown	X Load Changes During
Refueling Shutdown	Routine Power Operation
Routine Startup	Other (Specify)
Operation	

Flow: Recirculating 7.6×10^4 gpm
Feedwater 4.95×10^6 lb/hr

Power: Generator 335 MW
Reactor 1016.2 MW

Stack Gas Activity: 37,000 uci/sec

DESCRIPTION
OF OCCURRENCE:

On Thursday, July 19, 1979, reactor power was reduced to the above value in preparation for the removal of "A" feedwater string from service for replacement of the relief valve on IA3 feedwater heater. At 2325 hours, the "A" recirculating pump was removed from service for the purpose of performing corrective maintenance on the outboard generator collector ring, to correct excessive arcing occurring between the brushes and the collector ring. A reactor shutdown was commenced at this time as required by the technical specifications. After completion of the activity the "A" recirculation pump was returned to service at 0457 hours on July 20, and the reactor shutdown was terminated. At 0927 hours, "A" feedwater string was placed back into service and a reactor power increase was commenced.

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APPARENT CAUSE
OF OCCURRENCE:

☐ Design
☐ Manufacture
☐ Installation/
☐ Construction
☐ Operator

☐ Procedure
☐ Unusual Service Condition
☐ Inc. Environmental
☒ (1) Component Failure
☒ (2) Other (Specify)
Corrective maintenance

- (1) The plant is presently operating with only four of the five recirculating pumps because of the failure of "D" recirculating pump seal cooling coil.
- (2) "A" recirculating pump was removed from service to perform corrective maintenance on the outboard collector ring on the generator. The need for corrective maintenance was necessitated by excessive arcing between the brushes and the collector ring.

ANALYSIS OF
OCCURRENCE:

The Technical Specifications require, at a minimum, four (4) recirculating pumps to be in operation provided the inoperable pump loop is not isolated. Should the number of operable pumps fall below the minimum limit, a plant shutdown is required within 24 hours. A plant load reduction was initiated at 2205 hours on July 19, for the purpose of repairing the relief valve on 1A3 feedwater heater.

During the plant power reduction, the "A" recirculating pump was removed from service in a controlled manner. This was necessary to avoid a possible uncontrolled loss of the pump due to the excessive arcing taking place between the brushes and the collector ring on the generator. A controlled reactor shutdown was commenced as a result of this action.

The significance of this event is considered to be reduced, since the loss of the recirculating pump occurred in a controlled manner and the power level at which it occurred was approximately one half of full power operation.

CORRECTIVE
ACTION:

Both the inboard and outboard collector rings were resurfaced and a complete brush replacement was accomplished. After completion of the corrective maintenance, "A" recirculating pump was returned to service.

FAILURE DATA:

Not applicable

Prepared by:

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T. E. Quintenz

Date:

7-20-79

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