NRC FORM 366 (7-77)

UPDATE REPORT - PREVIOUS REPORT DATE 03-01-79

U. S. NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

LICENSEE EVENT REPORT

CONTROL BLOCK: | | | | | | | (1) (PLEASE PRINT OR TYPE ALL REQUIRED INFORMATION)

	LICENSEE CODE	LICENSE NUMBER	LICENSE TYPE	CAT
0 1	W I P B H 1 (2)	0 0 - 0 0 0 0 0 - 0 0 (3)	4 1 1 1 1 (4)	(5)

CON'T	REPORT SOURCE	DOCKET NUMBER	EVENT DATE	REPORT DATE
0 1	L (6)	0 5 0 0 0 2 6 6 (7)	0 2 1 9 7 8 (8)	0 3 1 3 7 9 (9)

EVENT DESCRIPTION AND PROBABLE CONSEQUENCES (10)

0 2 While returning the K10B cryogenic system gas compressor to service
0 3 following repair, an inadvertent radioactive gaseous release occurred.
0 4 As the compressor discharge valve was opened at 1819 hours, 2-19-79, the
0 5 operator heard gas escaping through a vent valve inadvertently left open.
0 6 The valve was immediately closed. T. S. 15.3.9.B.3 requires a 7-day
0 7 decay time prior to release. The release rate was found to be less than
0 8 3 percent of the permitted annual average release rate.

	SYSTEM CODE	CAUSE CODE	CAUSE SUBCODE	COMPONENT CODE	COMP. SUBCODE	VALVE SUBCODE
0 9	M B (11)	A (12)	A (13)	V A L V E X (14)	E (15)	L (16)

(17) LER/RO REPORT NUMBER	EVENT YEAR		SEQUENTIAL REPORT NO.		OCCURRENCE CODE	REPORT TYPE		REVISION NO.
	7 9	—	0 0 1	/	0 1	T	—	1

ACTION TAKEN	FUTURE ACTION	EFFECT ON PLANT	SHUTDOWN METHOD	HOURS (22)	ATTACHMENT SUBMITTED	NPRD-4 FORM SUB.	PRIME COMP. SUPPLIER	COMPONENT MANUFACTURER
H (18)	Z (19)	Z (20)	Z (21)	0 0 0 0	Y (23)	N (24)	L (25)	X 9 9 9 (26)

CAUSE DESCRIPTION AND CORRECTIVE ACTIONS (27)

1 0 The operator failed to ensure that the valve was closed before
1 1 returning the compressor to service. The operator was reinstructed to
1 2 carefully adhere to procedures.
1 3
1 4

	FACILITY STATUS	% POWER	OTHER STATUS (30)	METHOD OF DISCOVERY	DISCOVERY DESCRIPTION (32)
1 5	E (28)	1 0 0 (29)	N/A	A (31)	N/A

	ACTIVITY RELEASED	CONTENT OF RELEASE	AMOUNT OF ACTIVITY (35)	LOCATION OF RELEASE (36)
1 6	G (33)	N (34)	1.03 Curies total	Auxiliary bldg. vent to atmosphere

PERSONNEL EXPOSURES

	NUMBER	TYPE	DESCRIPTION (39)
1 7	0 0 0 (37)	Z (38)	N/A

PERSONNEL INJURIES

	NUMBER	DESCRIPTION (41)
1 8	0 0 0 (40)	N/A

LOSS OF OR DAMAGE TO FACILITY (43)

	TYPE	DESCRIPTION
1 9	Z (42)	N/A

PUBLICITY

	ISSUED	DESCRIPTION (45)	NRC USE ONLY
2 0	N (44)	N/A	

7903290005

NAME OF PREPARER Sol Burstein PHONE: 414/277-2121

GPO 917-926

ATTACHMENT TO LICENSEE EVENT REPORT NO. 79-001/01T-1

Wisconsin Electric Power Company
Point Beach Nuclear Plant Unit 1
Docket No. 50-266

An inadvertent radioactive gaseous release occurred at 1819 hours, February 19, 1979, while returning the K10B cryogenic gas compressor to service following repair. As the compressor discharge valve was opened, the operator heard gas escaping through a vent valve (CR-119) inadvertently left open. The vent valve was immediately closed, isolating the source of the release.

The release caused the auxiliary building atmospheric vent gas monitor to alarm. The monitor spiked to approximately 200,000 counts, quickly dropped to 30,000 counts, and then slowly decreased to normal levels about 70 minutes later. The entire release was properly monitored.

Calculations show that the release rate was 2.82% of the permitted annual average release rate of 0.2 Curies per second (not 1.96% as originally reported). The total release was 1.03 Curies of noble gases. A revised isotopic breakdown is attached.

The release occurred as a result of the operator failing to ensure that the valve was closed before returning the compressor to service as required by procedure. The procedure requires that all purge paths are ensured to be secured before restoring any portion of the system to service. The operator was reinstructed to carefully adhere to procedures.

ISOTOPIC BREAKDOWN

Date: 02-19-79 Time: 1800 hours

Source: Auxiliary Building Vent

Average Gas: 2.45×10^{-5} µCi/cc

Release Activity: 7.1×10^{-4} Ci/sec

Gaseous Composition:

Isotope	f	fxA	XMF	"Xe-133"
Xe-133	.068435	4.86×10^{-5}	1	4.86×10^{-5}
Kr-85m	.068349	4.85×10^{-5}	3	1.46×10^{-4}
Kr-88	.12166	8.64×10^{-5}	15	1.30×10^{-3}
Xe-133m	.0050981	3.62×10^{-6}	1	3.62×10^{-6}
Xe-135	.26043	1.85×10^{-4}	3	5.55×10^{-4}
Xe-138	.22924	1.63×10^{-4}	10	1.62×10^{-3}
Kr-87	.068435	4.86×10^{-5}	15	7.29×10^{-4}
Xe-135m	.14612	1.04×10^{-4}	10	1.04×10^{-3}
Ar-41	.035687	2.53×10^{-5}	7.5	1.90×10^{-4}
Kr-85	.0028517	2.02×10^{-6}	1	2.02×10^{-6}
		7.15×10^{-4}		5.63×10^{-3}

Air Particulates and Iodines:

I-131: N/A

I-133: N/A

Total Release (Based on Computer):

0004 - 2/20 - 3.53 Ci

0004 - 2/19 - 2.35 Ci

24 Hr. Total 1.18 Ci - .15 Ci (daily average) = 1.03 Ci

1.03 Ci x 7.87 (Avg. Xe-133 XMF) = 8.11 Ci Xe-133 Equivalents

Total Average Release Rate, Curies/Second: 5.63×10^{-3}

Percent of 0.2 Curies/Second (permitted annual average release rate) = 2.82%