



RSD

DEFENSE NUCLEAR AGENCY
ARMED FORCES RADIOBIOLOGY RESEARCH INSTITUTE
BETHESDA, MARYLAND 20814-5145

8 NOV 88

LICENSE EVENT REPORT (LER)

Abstract: On Oct 11, 1988, the reactor key was placed in the "on" position to review a facility circuit. A short while later the senior reactor operator who had unlocked the console while tracing an electrical circuit left the control room to retrieve an electrical schematic located in an office directly across the hall. Another reactor operator entered the control room, noticed the console was unlocked, locked the console and removed the key. Two corrective actions were taken in response to this event to prevent reoccurrence. One, the reactor operator was counseled by the Reactor Operations Supervisor (ROS) and the Reactor Facility Director (RFD) on his responsibilities as a senior operator. Two, all the reactor console circuit schematics will be available in the control room.

Circumstances surrounding the event - 11 October 1988:

- 1335 Reactor operator unlocked the console to perform electrical circuit tracing and testing. Schematics used to identify circuitry in the console were obtained from a book shelf in the control room. While tracing a circuit the operator discovered that the other necessary schematics were in a different room across the hall.
- 1344 The reactor operator left the control room to retrieve the schematics.
- 1345 Another reactor operator entered the control room, removed the key from the console, and notified the ROS.

The reactor operator who unlocked the console was out of the control room for less than one minute before another reactor operator locked the console. The reactor was shutdown, and there were no operations, core maintenance, or fuel handling, in progress. The only personnel in the reactor were four other reactor operators and one trainee.

The event was reported to the Reactor Operators Supervisor, who then notified the RFD and the USNRC that afternoon, on the same day.

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Probable Consequences:

With the reactor in a shutdown condition and no fuel handling, core maintenance, or operations being in progress, there was no reactivity change of the reactor core during this period of time. The reactor power chart recorder indicated no power increases above normal source level during the time when the console was unlocked. This information verifies that there were no consequences to the reactor facility or personnel during this time.

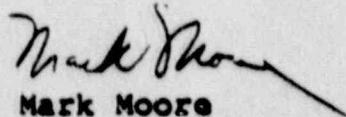
Status of corrective action - 12 October 88

Two corrective actions were taken to prevent a recurrence. One, the reactor operator was counseled by the Reactor Operations Supervisor (ROS) and the Reactor Facility Director (RFD) about full compliance with regulations and his responsibilities as a senior operator. Two, all the reactor console circuitry schematics will be available in the control room.

Reference:

There have been no previous similar events at this facility.

Point of Contact: Reactor Facility Director, M. L. Moore (202) 295-1290.



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