

POWER AUTHORITY OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK  
JAMES A. FITZPATRICK NUCLEAR POWER PLANT



RAYMOND J. PASTERNAK  
Resident Manager

P.O. BOX 41  
Lycoming, New York 13093  
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SERIAL: June 16, 1981  
JAFP 81-0618

Eldon J. Brunner, Chief  
Projects Branch #1  
Division of Resident & Project Inspection  
United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Region I  
631 Park Avenue  
King of Prussia, PA. 19406

SUBJECT: DOCKET NO. 50-333 I&E INSPECTION NO. 81-02

Reference: Letter to Eldon J. Brunner, Chief from Raymond J. Pasternak,  
Resident Manager, Dated April 9, 1981, Serial No. JAFP 81-0343

Dear Mr. Brunner:

With reference to the inspection conducted by Mr. J. Linville, Jr. of your office on January 1-31, 1981 at the James A. FitzPatrick Nuclear Power Plant, and in accordance with the provisions of Section 2.202 of Part II of Title 10 of the Code of Federal Regulations, we are submitting a revised response to a portion of Appendix A Notice of Violation transmitted by your letter dated March 18, 1981.

Based on discussions between members of the JAF staff and NRC personnel during the week of April 20, 1981, the JAF staff agreed to provide a revised response to the example of noncompliance concerning the shift supervisor leaving the control room for a short time during the transient which followed the loss of the Uninterruptible Power Supply (UPS) bus on January 17, 1981. Appendix A, Notice of Violation states, in part the following:

"Operations Department Standing Order No. 1, Operating Staff Responsibilities and Authorities, Revision 3, dated December 21, 1979, step 5.1.9 states in part, "When accident or potential accident conditions are encountered the shift supervisor shall immediately return to the control room and direct operator activities. He shall remain there until the plant is stable or he is relieved and such relief is recorded in the plant log..."

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Contrary to the above, at approximately 8:40 AM on January 17, 1981 upon entering the control room and realizing that the plant had scrambled from approximately full power due to a loss of the uninterruptible power supply bus, the shift supervisor stated that he went to the 300 foot elevation of the reactor building to check reactor vessel level.

REVISED RESPONSE TO VIOLATION EXAMPLE

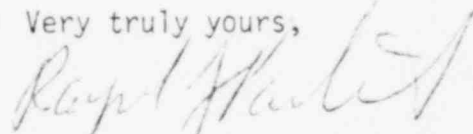
The Shift Supervisor acted in a manner that deviated from Operations Department Standing Order No. 1. However, his actions did not compromise plant safety at any time during the transient. The transient began as the Shift Supervisor was entering the Control Room. His first actions relative to the transient were to verify that the control room personnel were following Emergency Operations Procedure No. 25 "Reactor Scram" and to conduct a review of the important safety parameters, such as reactor pressure vessel (RPV) water level. During this review, the Shift Supervisor realized that of the seven RPV water level indicators, four were upscale (indicating properly) and three downscale (due to loss of power). Based on his familiarization with the probable cause of the event (he was aware that maintenance work was being performed on the UPS) and his experience, the Shift Supervisor left the control room for approximately three minutes to check the RPV water level at a local station. During this time there were two licensed reactor operators and a shift technical advisor in the control room. An additional licensed operator had gone to investigate the loss of UPS.

To prevent recurrence of this or similar events, the Resident Manager has issued a memorandum to licensed personnel which reiterates the importance of following applicable plant procedures. In addition, the reactor water level indicators and a number of other important indicators in the control room have been labeled to indicate the power source. This action will assist the operator in determining which instruments are available following failure of the UPS or other power sources.

Further action to prevent recurrence will include the development and implementation of a lesson plan which strengthens training for licensed operators in the requirements of Operations Department Standing Order No. 1 and the implementation of a modification which separates the power source for the reactor water level indication such that one of each type of indicator will be available upon the loss of a single power source.

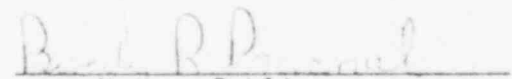
RJP:VC:brp  
Attachment: Distribution List

Very truly yours,



RAYMOND J. PASTERNAK  
RESIDENT MANAGER

Subscribed and Sworn to before me  
this 16th day of June, 1981

  
Notary Public

BEVERLY R. PRUCNAL, #4628499  
Notary Public - State of New York  
Appointed in Oswego County  
My Commission Expires March 30, 1984

DISTRIBUTION LIST

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JAFP 81-0618

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