

DUKE POWER COMPANY  
POWER BUILDING  
422 SOUTH CHURCH STREET, CHARLOTTE, N. C. 28242

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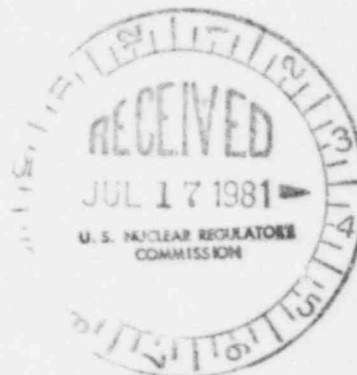
WILLIAM O. PARKER, JR.  
VICE PRESIDENT  
STEAM PRODUCTION

June 17, 1981

TELEPHONE: AREA 704  
373-4083

81-093-034

Mr. James P. O'Reilly, Director  
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Region II  
101 Marietta Street, Suite 3100  
Atlanta, Georgia 30303



Re: McGuire Nuclear Station Unit 1  
Docket No. 50-369

Dear Mr. O'Reilly:

Please find attached Reportable Occurrence Report RO-369/81-87. This report concerns the gross radioactivity monitor on the Conventional Waste Water Treatment Line (EMF-31) being inoperable. This incident was considered to be of significance with respect to the health and safety of the public.

Very truly yours,

William O. Parker, Jr.

RWO:pw  
Attachment

cc: Director  
Office of Management & Program Analysis  
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Washington, D. C. 20555

Mr. Bill Lavallee  
Nuclear Safety Analysis Center  
P. O. Box 10412  
Palo Alto, CA 94303

Ms. M. J. Graham  
Resident Inspector - NRC  
McGuire Nuclear Station

IE22  
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McGUIRE NUCLEAR STATION  
INCIDENT REPORT

Report Number: 81-87

Report Date: June 17, 1981

Occurrence Date: May 18, 1981

Facility: McGuire Unit 1, Cornelius, N. C.

Identification of Occurrence: The gross radioactivity monitor, EMF-31, on the conventional waste water (WC) treatment line was declared inoperable.

Conditions Prior to Occurrence: Mode 5, cold shutdown. Prior to initial criticality.

Description of Occurrence: Bits of trash had clogged the flow switch for the EMF-31 sample line. This resulted in the monitor failing in the full flow condition. The associated strainer, upstream of the flow switch, had also clogged due to trash. This shut off sample flow to the monitor, thus rendering it inoperable. This was reportable pursuant to Technical Specification 3.3.3.8 and required implementation of Action Statement #29 of Table 3.3-12. Failure of this monitor was not immediately detected due to the clogged flow switch.

Apparent Cause: The sample tap for EMF-31 extends from the bottom of the WC discharge line. Sediment, present in the liquid discharge, accumulated in the flow switch and in the strainer to a sufficient degree to clog them both and render the monitor inoperable.

Analysis of Occurrence: On May 18, about 1530 hours, an engineer noticed that the flow indicator of EMF-31 was not functioning. The Shift Supervisor declared the system inoperable and notified H.P. to repair the monitor.

A technician examined the monitor and the problem was found to be caused by bits of solid trash in the flow switch and in the sample line. He cleaned out the flow switch, strainer, and sample line with compressed air and returned the system to operation. The system was declared operable at 1920 hours of that same day.

Safety Analysis: The function of EMF-31 is to monitor radioactivity present in liquid effluents which exit the plant via the WC discharge line. The presence of only new, non-irradiated fuel on site and weekly results of the analyses which are performed on this system confirmed that neither the health and safety of the public nor the safe operation of the plant were affected by this incident.

Corrective Action: H.P. initiated a work request to have the system repaired and returned to service. The sample tap will be reoriented 90° on the WC discharge line to minimize the potential of sediment restricting the flow and operation of the EMF. Additionally, this system will be checked out and cleaned on a weekly basis.