

DUKE POWER COMPANY

POWER BUILDING

422 SOUTH CHURCH STREET, CHARLOTTE, N. C. 28242

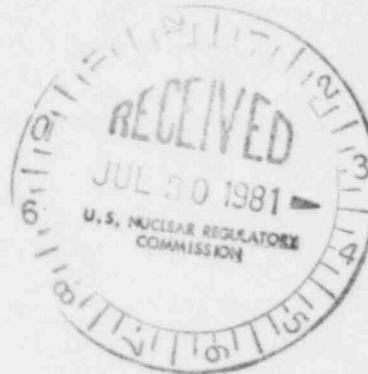
OFFICIAL COPY

WILLIAM O. PARKER, JR.  
VICE PRESIDENT  
STEAM PRODUCTION

June 5, 1981

TELEPHONE: AREA 704  
373-4083

Mr. J. 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-369/81-83. This report concerns a liquid waste release initiated in violation of a Technical Specification Action Statement. This incident was considered to be of no significance with respect to the health and safety of the public.

Very truly yours,

*William O. Parker, Jr.*

William O. Parker, Jr.

RWO/djs  
Attachment

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

Mr. Bill Lavalee  
Nuclear Safety Analysis Center  
Post Office Box 10412  
Palo Alto, California 94303

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

IE22  
5/11

McGUIRE NUCLEAR STATION

INCIDENT REPORT

REPORT NUMBER: 81-83

REPORT DATE: June 5, 1981

OCCURRENCE DATE: May 22, 1981

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

IDENTIFICATION OF OCCURRENCE: A liquid waste release (LWR) was initiated in violation of a Technical Specification Action Statement.

CONDITIONS PRIOR TO OCCURRENCE: Mode 5, Prior to initial criticality.

DESCRIPTION OF OCCURRENCE: On May 22, 1981, personnel were preparing to release the contents of Waste Monitor Tank (WMT) 'B' thru EMF-49 (liquid radwaste discharge monitor). A sample was taken and analyzed and the tank release was initiated at 1425 hours. At the beginning of the release, it was discovered that the rad monitor EMF-49 bypass valve (LWM-245) was broken and could not be used (throttled) to control the flowrate thru EMF-49. Consequently, EMF-49 was declared inoperable which required going to Action Statement 28 of Technical Specification 4.3.3.8. A second sample was taken as required, but the release was restarted before the sample analysis was complete. This was in violation of Action Statement 28 of Tech. Spec. 4.3.3.8 and thus reportable pursuant to Tech. Spec. 6.9.1.12b.

APPARENT CAUSE OF OCCURRENCE: A technician misinterpreted the directions of a supervisor and restarted the liquid waste release (LWR) before the sample analysis was complete. Also, the HP procedure which requires that two samples be analyzed prior to a LWR when EMF-49 is inoperable was not used.

ANALYSIS OF OCCURRENCE: Personnel were preparing to release the contents of WMT 'B' (98% full) using the operating procedure, Radwaste Procedure for Discharging a Waste Monitor Tank. After EMF-49 was declared inoperable and a second sample was drawn and taken to the HP lab for analysis, a supervisor was notified of the problem. Due to the noise of surrounding equipment, the technician misinterpreted the supervisor's instructions and restarted the release before the second sample analysis was complete. The supervisor telephoned the technician a short while later to verify that the release had not yet started and the release was terminated.

The health physics procedure requires that two samples be taken and analyzed prior to a LWR if EMF-49 is inoperable. However, the technician assisting the other technician did not have a copy of this procedure since he didn't know it would be needed when the release was first initiated. A work request was written to repair LWM-245 and on May 23, WMT 'B' was released using the normal flowpath thru EMF-49. This release was performed under LWRT-96.

SAFETY ANALYSIS: Since there was only new fuel in the core, there was no radioactive liquid waste in Waste Monitor Tank 'B'. Thus, safe plant operation and the health and safety of the public were not affected. If this incident occurred during normal operation, the health and safety of the public would not be affected if the initial sample is analyzed correctly. The purpose of the second sample is to verify the results of the first sample.

CORRECTIVE ACTION: A work request was written to repair LWM-245. The sampling procedure for an inoperable EMF will be listed in the 'Limits and Precautions' sections of the procedure for LWR, and the Radwaste Procedure for Discharging a WMT.