

Report Number: 81-40/03L
Report Date: July 9, 1981
Occurrence Date: 6-9-81
Facility: Salem Generating Station, Unit 2
Public Service Electric & Gas Company
Hancocks Bridge, New Jersey 08038

IDENTIFICATION OF OCCURRENCE:

Chemical and Volume Control System Letdown Line Weld Failure.
This report was initiated by Incident Report 81-186.

CONDITIONS PRIOR TO OCCURRENCE:

Mode 3 - Rx Power 0% - Unit Load 0 MWe

DESCRIPTION OF OCCURRENCE:

At 1955 hours, June 9, 1981, the Chemical and Volume Control System letdown line was isolated due to closure of letdown isolation valve 2CV7 for unknown reasons. The closure of 2CV7 caused the pressure in the letdown line to increase to the lift setting of safety valve 2CV6 (600 psig). In the Control Room alarms were received for Containment Sump Pump start, Containment Sump overflow and Pressurizer Relief Tank high pressure. It was apparent there was a leak on the letdown line in containment. A containment entry was initiated to investigate the source of leakage on the letdown line. The investigation revealed the weld at vent valve 2CV396 had failed. Approximately 3000 gallons of coolant was released to the containment due to the weld failure. There was no release of radioactivity exterior to the containment. Action Statement 3.4.7.2.b was entered at 1955 hours.

This constituted operation in a degraded mode in accordance with Technical Specification 6.9.1.9.d.

DESIGNATION OF APPARENT CAUSE OF OCCURRENCE:

Equipment failure. The combination of excessive vibration and the pressure transient caused the weld at 2CV396 to fail.

ANALYSIS OF OCCURRENCE:

Technical Specification 3.4.7.2.b requires that with any Reactor Coolant System leakage greater than the limits specified, excluding pressure boundary leakage and leakage from Reactor Coolant System pressure isolation valves, reduce the leakage rate to within limits within 4 hours or be in at least hot standby within the next 6 hours and in cold shutdown within the following 30 hours.

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CORRECTIVE ACTION:

After the leak was isolated by isolating the letdown system, 2CV396 was removed and the vent line was capped off with a welded pipe cap. The weld was inspected with satisfactory results and the letdown system was returned to service. Action Statement 3.4.7.2.b was terminated at 2045 hours, June 9, 1981.

FAILURE DATA:

Pipe 3/4"
Schedule 40

Prepared By J. J. Espey

SORC Meeting No. 81-59

H. J. V. [Signature]
Manager - Salem Generating Station

(PLEASE PRINT OR TYPE ALL REQUIRED INFORMATION)

CON'T

EVENT DESCRIPTION AND PROBABLE CONSEQUENCES (10)

CAUSE DESCRIPTION AND CORRECTIVE ACTIONS (27)

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