



April 13, 1990

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Subject: Inadvertent Withdrawal of Control Rods with Main Turbine Bypass Valves Open

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After several months of good plant operating performance, there have recently been several instances in which procedural compliance has not met the high standards that Illinois Power expects. We have focused on procedural compliance as an area for additional management attention in our 1990 Initiatives, but have not yet succeeded in achieving the standards that we have set for ourselves. This event confirms that further effort is required. I want to assure you that, although the event was not safety significant and had no safety consequences, we clearly recognize its seriousness, both in terms of the procedural compliance and attentiveness issues that gave rise to it and the appropriateness of our response.

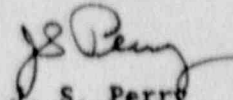
To be sure that the causes of this event are understood and that Clinton Power Station (CPS) personnel understand that these types of occurrences cannot be tolerated, I have already directed that CPS be brought to a cold shutdown condition and maintained in this condition until the following corrective actions are completed:

1. Each shift crew is being briefed on the event and its causes as they come on shift.
2. Each shift crew will receive retraining on reactivity management procedures, the importance of procedure compliance, and the importance of close monitoring of equipment configuration and thorough equipment status checks during shift turnovers. The crew will also be required to perform exercises on the plant simulator to assure that they fully understand the proper checks and procedures to follow during reactivity changes and plant startup. Each crew will be required to complete a written examination covering these topics.
3. The Plant Manager and I will meet personally with each shift crew to discuss the causes of the event and to reinforce the lessons presented in the training described above.
4. I will meet with the CPS managers and directors to discuss with them the importance of prompt recognition and response to potential problems, and prompt reporting of these problems up the chain of command.
5. An experienced senior-level individual, reporting directly to me, is being assigned to monitor Operations department performance to provide additional assurance that significant problems are promptly recognized and responded to.
6. Eight director-level individuals are being assigned to monitor power ascension once the plant is restarted. These individuals will monitor each shift's performance until the plant attains full power.

I expect that these actions will take approximately one week to implement. Only after they are completed to my satisfaction will we proceed to restart the reactor and commence power ascension.

To assure that we have fully understood the ramifications of this issue and have taken appropriate action in response to it, IP is bringing in experienced personnel from outside the company to independently review the causes of the event and IP's corrective action. They will report the results of their review directly to me.

Very Truly Yours,

  
J. S. Perry  
Vice President

TBE/RFP/csm

cc: NRC Clinton Licensing Project Manager  
NRC Resident Office  
Illinois Department of Nuclear Safety