

3/4.0 APPLICABILITYBASES (Con't)

The time limits of Specification 3.0.3 allow 37 hours for the plant to be in COLD SHUTDOWN when a shutdown is required during POWER operation. If the plant is in a lower CONDITION of operation when a shutdown is required, the time limit for reaching the next lower CONDITION of operation applies. However, if a lower CONDITION of operation is reached in less time than allowed, the total allowable time to reach COLD SHUTDOWN, or other OPERATIONAL CONDITION, is not reduced. For example, if STARTUP is reached in 2 hours, the time allowed to reach HOT SHUTDOWN is the next 11 hours because the total time to reach HOT SHUTDOWN is not reduced from the allowable limit of 13 hours. Therefore, if remedial measures are completed that would permit a return to POWER operation, a penalty is not incurred by having to reach a lower CONDITION of operation in less than the total time allowed.

~~The same principle applies with regard to the allowable outage time limits of the ACTION requirements, if compliance with the ACTION requirements for one specification results in entry into an OPERATIONAL CONDITION or condition of operation for another specification in which the requirements of the Limiting Condition for Operation are not met. If the new specification becomes applicable in less time than specified, the difference may be added to the allowable outage time limits of the second specification. However, the allowable outage time limits of ACTION requirements for a higher CONDITION of operation may not be used to extend the allowable outage time that is applicable when a Limiting Condition for Operation is not met in a lower CONDITION of operation.~~

The shutdown requirements of Specification 3.0.3 do not apply in CONDITIONS 4 and 5, because the ACTION requirements of individual specifications define the remedial measures to be taken.

Specification 3.0.4 establishes limitations on a change in OPERATIONAL CONDITIONS when a Limiting Condition for Operation is not met. It precludes placing the facility in a higher CONDITION of operation when the requirements for a Limiting Condition for Operation are not met and continued noncompliance to these conditions would result in a shutdown to comply with the ACTION requirements if a change in CONDITIONS were permitted. The purpose of this specification is to ensure that facility operation is not initiated or that higher CONDITIONS of operation are not entered when corrective action is being taken to obtain compliance with a specification by restoring equipment to OPERABLE status or parameters to specified limits. Compliance with ACTION requirements that permit continued operation of the facility for an unlimited period of time provides an acceptable level of safety for continued operation without regard to the status of the plant before or after a change in OPERATIONAL CONDITIONS. Therefore, in this case, entry into an OPERATIONAL CONDITION or other specified condition may be made in accordance with the provisions of the ACTION requirements. The provisions of this specification should not, however, be interpreted as endorsing the failure to exercise good practice in restoring systems or components to OPERABLE status before plant startup.