

CONTROL BLOCK: | | | | | | | (1) (PLEASE PRINT OR TYPE ALL REQUIRED INFORMATION)

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(PLEASE PRINT OR TYPE ALL REQUIRED INFORMATION)

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CON'T

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EVENT DESCRIPTION AND PROBABLE CONSEQUENCES 10

0 2 While in hot shutdown, while performing the shift walkthrough of the "A" Battery Room

0 3 a CRO observed cell #29 was leaking. Based upon the amount of leakage out of the cell,

0 4 the crack is suspected to be very small. Cell voltage and specific gravity have

0 5 remained within surveillance limits. Public health and safety remain uneffected. Not

0 6 reportable per Technical Specifications.

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SYSTEM CODE 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31 32 33 34 35 36 37 38 39 40 41 42 43 44 45 46 47 48 49 50 51 52 53 54 55 56 57 58 59 60 61 62 63 64 65 66 67 68 69 70 71 72 73 74 75 76 77 78 79 80 81 82 83 84 85 86 87 88 89 90 91 92 93 94 95 96 97 98 99 100

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EVENT YEAR 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31 32 33 34 35 36 37 38 39 40 41 42 43 44 45 46 47 48 49 50 51 52 53 54 55 56 57 58 59 60 61 62 63 64 65 66 67 68 69 70 71 72 73 74 75 76 77 78 79 80 81 82 83 84 85 86 87 88 89 90 91 92 93 94 95 96 97 98 99 100

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X 18 A 19 Z 20 Z 21 0 0 0 0 22 Y 23 Y 24 N 25 B 0 1 5

CAUSE DESCRIPTION AND CORRECTIVE ACTIONS 27

1 0 Root cause is unknown. Possible cause may be aging of material used to make the cells.

1 1 Immediate corrective action was to monitor cell voltage and specific gravity for

1 2 change in value. Job ticket (CC203) written to have the cell replaced. This is

1 3 being reported as an event of potential interest to the NRC and other licensee's

1 4 (IE Notice 83-11).

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FACILITY STATUS 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31 32 33 34 35 36 37 38 39 40 41 42 43 44 45 46 47 48 49 50 51 52 53 54 55 56 57 58 59 60 61 62 63 64 65 66 67 68 69 70 71 72 73 74 75 76 77 78 79 80 81 82 83 84 85 86 87 88 89 90 91 92 93 94 95 96 97 98 99 100

X 28 0 0 0 29 NRC Order 30 B 31 Routine Inspection 32

ACTIVITY CONTENT 33 34 35 36 37 38 39 40 41 42 43 44 45 46 47 48 49 50 51 52 53 54 55 56 57 58 59 60 61 62 63 64 65 66 67 68 69 70 71 72 73 74 75 76 77 78 79 80 81 82 83 84 85 86 87 88 89 90 91 92 93 94 95 96 97 98 99 100

Z 33 Z 34 N/A 35 LOCATION OF RELEASE 36 N/A

PERSONNEL EXPOSURES 37 38 39 40 41 42 43 44 45 46 47 48 49 50 51 52 53 54 55 56 57 58 59 60 61 62 63 64 65 66 67 68 69 70 71 72 73 74 75 76 77 78 79 80 81 82 83 84 85 86 87 88 89 90 91 92 93 94 95 96 97 98 99 100

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PERSONNEL INJURIES 40 41 42 43 44 45 46 47 48 49 50 51 52 53 54 55 56 57 58 59 60 61 62 63 64 65 66 67 68 69 70 71 72 73 74 75 76 77 78 79 80 81 82 83 84 85 86 87 88 89 90 91 92 93 94 95 96 97 98 99 100

0 0 0 40 N/A 41

LOSS OF OR DAMAGE TO FACILITY 42 43 44 45 46 47 48 49 50 51 52 53 54 55 56 57 58 59 60 61 62 63 64 65 66 67 68 69 70 71 72 73 74 75 76 77 78 79 80 81 82 83 84 85 86 87 88 89 90 91 92 93 94 95 96 97 98 99 100

Z 42 N/A 43

PUBLICITY 44 45 46 47 48 49 50 51 52 53 54 55 56 57 58 59 60 61 62 63 64 65 66 67 68 69 70 71 72 73 74 75 76 77 78 79 80 81 82 83 84 85 86 87 88 89 90 91 92 93 94 95 96 97 98 99 100

N 44 N/A 45

ISSUED DESCRIPTION 46

STATION BATTERY STORAGE CELL (LCU-19)

LEAKING FROM CELL CASING

I. CURRENT ACTIVITIES AT THE TIME OF THE OCCURRENCE

TMI Unit 1 was in a hot shutdown condition. Four (4) RCP's in operation, primary temp. 533°F and primary pressure 2159.

II. CIRCUMSTANCES LEADING TO THE OCCURRENCE

On October 4, 1983 on the 3-11 shift while on a walkthrough of the "A" Battery Room a CRO observed cell #29 was leaking. The CRO reported the leaking cell to corrective electrical maintenance. On October 4, 1983 a Job Ticket (CC203) was initiated to investigate and repair/replace battery cell.

III. DESCRIPTION

The crack is suspected of being located on the side of the battery cell. Due to cell location, in the battery rack this could not be verified.

The battery cell does not appear to have excessive sediment build-up on the bottom (inside) of cell casing and the plates are not swollen. Based on the amount of leakage out of the cell, the crack is suspected to be very small. Cell voltage and specific gravity have remained within surveillance limits. While not reportable by Technical Specification, this event is being reported as an event of potential interest since the NRC is investigating cell aging (Reference IE Notice 83-11).

IV. RESULTANT EVENTS

Cell #29 has remained in service. Cell voltage and specific gravity have not varied compared to readings taken prior to detection of the leak.

V. PREVIOUS EVENTS OF A SIMILAR NATURE

Cell #98 was replaced in the "A" battery on November 23, 1980 due to a cracked cell casing.

VI. ROOT CAUSE

Exact cause is unknown. Possible cause due to aging of material used to make battery cell casings.

VII. IMMEDIATE CORRECTIVE ACTION

Monitor cell voltage and specific gravity for change in value.

VIII. LONG TERM CORRECTIVE ACTION

Replacement cell will be ordered and the cell will be replaced. The monthly surveillance procedure includes monitoring all battery cells for signs of cell leakage. Battery cells found to be leaking will be documented and replaced.

IX. COMPONENT FAILURE DATA

C&D LCU-19 8 hr. cap. 1350.



GPU Nuclear Corporation  
Post Office Box 480  
Route 441 South  
Middletown, Pennsylvania 17057-0191  
717 944-7621  
TELEX 84-2386  
Writer's Direct Dial Number:

December 13, 1983

5211-83-339

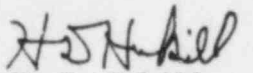
Dr. T. E. Murley  
Region I, Regional Administrator  
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
631 Park Avenue  
King of Prussia, PA 19406

Dear Sir:

Three Mile Island Nuclear Station, Unit 1 (TMI-1)  
Operating License No. DPR-50  
Docket No. 50-289  
LER 83-042/99X-0

This letter transmits Licensee Event Report (LER) 83-042/99X-0 which deals with leaking observed from a storage cell of a station battery. This is not reportable per our Technical Specifications, but is being provided due to the safety significance of the station batteries and current regulatory, industry and public interest in recent industry experience with station batteries (IE Notice 83-11). The public health and safety were not affected.

Sincerely,

  
H. D. Hukill  
Director, TMI-1

HDH:CJS:vjf

Enclosure

cc: R. Conte  
J. Van Vliet  
Document Management Branch