

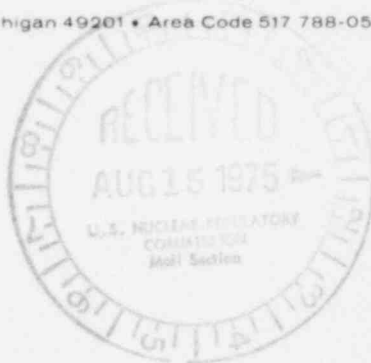


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General Offices: 212 West Michigan Avenue, Jackson, Michigan 49201 • Area Code 517 788-0550

August 12, 1975



Division of Reactor Licensing
US Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, DC 20555

DOCKET 50-255, LICENSE DPR-20
AO-75-16, REV 1

On August 4, 1975, we submitted a report on Abnormal Occurrence AO-75-16 covering the release of radwaste in excess of the permissible discharge rate. A review of this report has disclosed a number of errors which should be corrected. The attached report (Rev 1) replaces the previously submitted report in its entirety.

David A. Bixel (Signed)

David A. Bixel
Assistant Nuclear Licensing Administrator

CC: JGKeppler, USNRC
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ABNORMAL OCCURRENCE REPORT
Palisades Plant

1. Report No: AO-75-16
- 2a. Report Date: August 4, 1975 (Rev 1, August 12, 1975)
- 2b. Occurrence Date: July 22, 1975
3. Facility: Palisades Nuclear Plant, Covert, MI
4. Identification of Occurrence: Exceeding radwaste batch discharge rate.
5. Conditions: Steady state power 80 percent.
6. Description of Occurrence: Radwaste Batch 75-021 R was authorized for release at no more than 70 gpm (based on a calculated value of 84.7 gpm). The operator set the flow controller FIC 1050 (a three-inch control valve) at 40 gpm for the 5,000 gallon release. While checking the release about 45 minutes later, the operator noted that the pump had just lost suction indicating that the tank was nearly empty. A calculation based on the elapsed time indicated that the release had occurred at 102.2 gpm. The Shift Supervisor and Radioactive Material Control (RMC) were notified. RMC calculated the release at 1.19 MPC. Grab samples were obtained from the lake both north and south of the release point; however, no detectable activity was found. A sample of the released effluent was sent to an independent laboratory for a refined analysis. The results of this analysis are expected about the middle of August 1975.
7. Designation of Apparent Cause: The flow controller FIC 1050 lost water in one of its reference legs resulting in inaccurate flow control.
8. Analysis of Occurrence: This occurrence was associated with an equipment malfunction and involved the release of 211.6 millicuries of activity. Samples taken in the lake near the point of release showed no detectable activity.
9. Corrective Action: Radwaste release procedures have been changed to require that the zero point on the flow control be verified to plus or minus 5 percent prior to the start of a release. Since two release paths are available (a one-inch and a three-inch line), the procedures have also been changed to require the use of the one-inch line for release rates that are under 100 gpm.
10. Failure Data: The tendency to lose the water in one of the flow controller reference legs is a continuing problem with this system due to the negative pressure at the flow controller location caused by the drop in elevation between the flow control point and the release point. We conclude that the procedural changes instituted will make a reoccurrence of this occurrence unlikely.