

## LICENSEE EVENT REPORT (LER)

FACILITY NAME (1) Joseph M. Farley - Unit 1										DOCKET NUMBER (2) 0 5 0 0 0 3 4 8 1				PAGE (3) 1 OF 0 2	
TITLE (4) Inoperable Service Water Battery															
EVENT DATE (5)			LER NUMBER (6)				REPORT DATE (7)			OTHER FACILITIES INVOLVED (8)					
MONTH	DAY	YEAR	YEAR	SEQUENTIAL NUMBER	REVISION NUMBER	MONTH	DAY	YEAR	FACILITY NAMES			DOCKET NUMBER(S)			
0 5	0 1	8 4	8 4	0 1 1	0 0	0 5	2 5	8 4	J. M. Farley - Unit 2			0 5 0 0 0 3 6 4			
OPERATING MODE (9) 1			THIS REPORT IS SUBMITTED PURSUANT TO THE REQUIREMENTS OF 10 CFR 8: (Check one or more of the following) (11)												
POWER LEVEL (10) 0 4 7		20.402(b)				20.406(e)				90.73(a)(2)(iv)				73.71(b)	
		20.406(a)(1)(i)				90.38(a)(1)				90.73(a)(2)(v)				73.71(e)	
		20.406(a)(1)(ii)				90.38(a)(2)				90.73(a)(2)(vi)				OTHER (Specify in Abstract below and in Text, NRC Form 366A)	
		20.406(a)(1)(iii)				90.73(a)(2)(i)				90.73(a)(2)(vii)(A)					
		20.406(a)(1)(iv)				90.73(a)(2)(ii)				90.73(a)(2)(vii)(B)					
		20.406(a)(1)(v)				90.73(a)(2)(iii)				90.73(a)(2)(viii)					
LICENSEE CONTACT FOR THIS LER (12)															
NAME W. G. Hairston, III										TELEPHONE NUMBER 2 0 5 8 9 9 - 5 1 5 6					
COMPLETE ONE LINE FOR EACH COMPONENT FAILURE DESCRIBED IN THIS REPORT (13)															
CAUSE	SYSTEM	COMPONENT	MANUFACTURER	REPORTABLE TO NRC		CAUSE	SYSTEM	COMPONENT	MANUFACTURER	REPORTABLE TO NRC					
SUPPLEMENTAL REPORT EXPECTED (14)										EXPECTED SUBMISSION DATE (15)		MONTH	DAY	YEAR	
YES (If yes, complete EXPECTED SUBMISSION DATE: )										X NO					

ABSTRACT (Limit to 1400 spaces, i.e., approximately fifteen single-space typewritten lines) (16)

At 1035 on 5-1-84, during performance of FNP-0-STP-606.2 (Service Water Building Battery Weekly Verification), the B train service water battery was declared inoperable due to cell number 42 (EJ, BTRY) having a specific gravity of 1.182 corrected to 77 degrees Fahrenheit versus 1.190 required. The affected cell and the two neighboring cells (3 cell unit) were replaced. Health/safety of the public was not affected.

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PDR ADOCK 05000348  
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## LICENSEE EVENT REPORT (LER) TEXT CONTINUATION

U.S. NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

APPROVED OMB NO 3150-0104

EXPIRES 8/31/85

FACILITY NAME (1)	DOCKET NUMBER (2)	LER NUMBER (8)			PAGE (3)		
		YEAR	SEQUENTIAL NUMBER	REVISION NUMBER			
Joseph M. Farley Nuclear Plant - Unit 1	0500034884	84	011	00	02	OF	02

TEXT (If more space is required, use additional NRC Form 386A's) (17)

On 05-01-84, FNP-0-STP-606.2 (Service Water Building Battery Weekly Verification) was performed on the B train battery. At 1035, the battery was declared inoperable due to cell number 42 (EJ, BTRY) having a specific gravity of 1.182 corrected to 77 degrees Fahrenheit versus 1.190 required by technical specification 4.8.2.4.2.a.2. It is noted that the specific gravity of this cell and of the other cells was still sufficient to fulfill the FSAR load requirements with margin.

It is suspected that the low specific gravity was caused by current tracking across the battery case between the cell terminals. This tracking may result from contaminants introduced during battery operation and may be compounded by the close terminal spacing of the service water battery. Such tracking could shunt the float charge in a manner as to slowly deplete the cell specific gravity. Since similar occurrences have been reported (see LERs 78-026/03L-0 [Unit 1], 80-056/03L-0 [Unit 1], 80-067/03L-0 [Unit 1], 80-070/03L-0 [Unit 1], 83-017/03L-0 [Unit 1], and 83-041/03L-0 [Unit 1]), this is believed to be a potentially generic problem rather than a random problem.

The affected cell and two neighboring cells (3 cell unit) were replaced restoring the B train battery to operable status at 1225 on 05-01-84. An engineering evaluation is in progress to determine a means to prevent recurrence.

**Mailing Address**  
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**R. P. McDonald**  
Senior Vice President-  
Nuclear Generation  
Flintridge Building



**Alabama Power**  
the southern electric system

May 25, 1984

Docket Nos. 50-348

Document Control Desk  
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Washington, D. C. 20555

Dear Sir:

Joseph M. Farley Nuclear Plant - Unit 1, Licensee Event Report No. LER 84-011-00 is forwarded in accordance with 10CFR50.73 to provide 30 days written notification of this occurrence.

If you have any questions, please advise.

Yours very truly,

R. P. McDonald

RPM/CJS:1sh-D16  
Enclosure  
cc: IE, Region II

IER2  
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