

## LICENSEE EVENT REPORT (LER)

FACILITY NAME (1)  
**JAMES A. FITZPATRICK NUCLEAR POWER PLANT**

DOCKET NUMBER (2)

0 5 0 0 0 3 3 3 1 OF 0 2

PAGE (3)

TITLE (4)

INADVERTENT LIFTING OF FUEL ASSEMBLY FROM REACTOR CORE

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	4	2	1	8	5	8	5	0	1	0	0	5	0	0	0
0	4	2	1	8	5	8	5	0	1	0	0	5	0	0	0

THIS REPORT IS SUBMITTED PURSUANT TO THE REQUIREMENTS OF 10 CFR §: (Check one or more of the following) (11)

OPERATING MODE (9)	20.402(b)	20.406(a)(1)(i)	20.406(a)(1)(ii)	20.406(a)(1)(iii)	20.406(a)(1)(iv)	20.406(a)(1)(v)	20.406(e)	50.73(a)(2)(iv)	50.73(a)(2)(v)	50.73(a)(2)(vii)	50.73(a)(2)(viii)(A)	50.73(a)(2)(viii)(B)	50.73(a)(2)(ix)	73.71(b)	73.71(e)	OTHER (Specify in Abstract below and in Text, NRC Form 366A)
N																
POWER LEVEL (10)	0	0	0													Voluntary

LICENSEE CONTACT FOR THIS LER (12)  
NAME: Douglas J. Lindsey, Assistant Operations Superintendent  
TELEPHONE NUMBER: 3 1 5 3 4 2 - 3 8 4 0  
AREA CODE: 3 1 5

COMPLETE ONE LINE FOR EACH COMPONENT FAILURE DESCRIBED IN THIS REPORT (13)											
CAUSE	SYSTEM	COMPONENT	MANUFAC- TURER	REPORTABLE TO NPROS	CAUSE	SYSTEM	COMPONENT	MANUFAC- TURER	REPORTABLE TO NPROS	CAUSE	SYSTEM

SUPPLEMENTAL REPORT EXPECTED (14)  
YES (If yes, complete EXPECTED SUBMISSION DATE) ☐ NO ☒  
EXPECTED SUBMISSION DATE (15)  
MONTH: DAY: YEAR:

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

During a refueling outage, while conducting control rod drive maintenance, a fuel assembly was inadvertently lifted from the reactor vessel with the fuel support grapple. Visual contact with the fuel support grapple had been lost as a result of a grapple air leak.

The Reactor Building Ventilation was isolated and the Standby Gas Treatment system had been placed in operation prior to the start of the evolution. A safety line was attached to the fuel assembly and the fuel assembly was then transported to the spent fuel pool.

The incident probably would not have occurred had the operator stopped hoist motion as soon as visual contact with the grapple was lost. All licensed operators have been counselled on this incident and the importance of stopping movement of refueling equipment when visual contact is lost.

This report is being voluntarily submitted due to NRC and public interest in the incident.

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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) <b>JAMES A. FITZPATRICK NUCLEAR POWER PLANT</b>	DOCKET NUMBER (2) <b>0 5 0 0 0 3 3 3 8 5</b>	LER NUMBER (6)			PAGE (3)		
		YEAR	SEQUENTIAL NUMBER	REVISION NUMBER			
		<b>8 5</b>	<b>0 1 0</b>	<b>0 0</b>	<b>0 2</b>	<b>OF</b>	<b>0 2</b>

TEXT (If more space is required, use additional NRC Form 368A's) (17)

While shutdown for refueling, maintenance and modification, preparation was being made to uncouple a control rod from above the reactor vessel. The four (4) fuel assemblies had been removed and the control rod fully withdrawn from the control cell in which the control rod was to be uncoupled. The fuel support grapple, General Electric Part No. 731E237G1, was being lowered with the auxiliary hoist into the core to remove the fuel support piece. The grapple contacted the top of the core and was then raised slightly for realignment. When realigned, the operator lowered the grapple to the upper grid. When the engaged button was operated to allow the grapple to pass down through the upper grid, the operator immediately observed a wave of air bubbles coming up from the grapple. The grapple was lifted to determine the source of the air leak. As the grapple was being hoisted, the operator pressed the disengage button to stop the air leak. The air leak stopped and a fuel bundle was observed to be caught on one of the lock levers of the grapple. Grapple motion was immediately stopped.

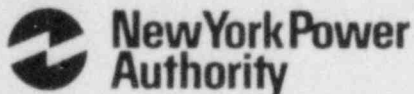
The bottom of the fuel bundle was approximately 3 feet below the vessel flange. The control room was contacted immediately, unnecessary personnel were removed from the Reactor Building and additional supervisory personnel reported to the refueling bridge. A J-Hook was lowered on a rope to secure the fuel assembly to the refueling bridge. The assembly was then carefully raised and then brought to the spent fuel pool and lowered into a storage cell.

During the time that this evolution took place, the Reactor Building Ventilation was in the isolated condition and the Standby Gas Treatment System was in operation.

All personnel with operating licenses have been counselled on this event and cautioned to immediately stop all in-vessel operations when visual contact is lost.

No Technical Specification or procedure requirements were violated and the incident does not fit any of the examples of reportable events as described in NUREG 1022 or 10 CFR 50.73. The NRC Operations Center was informed using the Emergency Notification System shortly after the incident. This report is being voluntarily submitted due to NRC and public interest in the incident.

James A. FitzPatrick  
Nuclear Power Plant  
P.O. Box 41  
Lycoming, New York 13093  
315 342 3840



Harold A. Glovier  
Resident Manager

May 14, 1985  
JAFP 85-0434

United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Document Control Desk  
Washington, D.C. 20555

REFERENCE: DOCKET NO. 50-333 Licensee Event Report: 85-010-00

Dear Sir:

We have enclosed the referenced Licensee Event Report in accordance with 10CFR50.73.

If there are any questions concerning this report, please contact Mr. Douglas J. Lindsey at (315) 342-3840, Extension 302.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'HAG', is written over the printed name 'HAROLD A. GLOVIER'.

HAROLD A. GLOVIER

HAG:DJL:dmh

Enclosure

CC: USNRC, Region I (1)  
INPO Records Center, Atlanta, Georgia (1)  
Internal Power Authority Distribution  
American Nuclear Insurers (1)  
NRC Resident Inspector  
Document Control Center  
LER/OR File

IE22  
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