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NRC USE ONLY

LER 83-056/03X-1

A thorough review was performed of the events as described on the following time line. Operations and technical personnel identified main troublespots, and devised recommendations to correct them.

Present RHR system design requires 10,000 gpm through the heat exchanger to protect the physical integrity of the heat exchanger outlet valve. Lack of this throttling capability jeopardizes the allowed cooldown rate when transferring RHR shutdown cooling flow from bypassing the heat exchanger to establishing flow through the heat exchanger. Valves with the requisite throttling characteristics have replaced the originally installed valves.

Corrective actions also include splitting the present RHR operating procedure into six separate procedures to facilitate their proper use. The shutdown cooling mode procedure has also been revised for clarification.

EVENT TIME LINE

PRIOR TO
START OF TEST
ON 4/7/83

Reactor temperature/pressure was maintained using shutdown cooling by valving in the RHR heat exchanger for approximately 5 minutes every hour. The heat exchanger was valved in by alternately opening and closing either the heat exchanger inlet or discharge valve (F047 or F003). The heat exchanger bypass valve F048 always remained full open.

0256

With reactor vessel level at 35", the startup test began. The heat exchanger had been isolated for approximately one hour before the start of the test with RHR SW flow at 5000 gpm and spray pond temperature ~57°F. The RWCU system was in service with the heat exchangers isolated, then all flow in RHR Loop A was directed through the heat exchanger (10,000 gpm). The heat exchanger bypass valve was fully closed approximately 3 minutes after the start of the test.

0304

When a 60°F temperature drop in the suction line of the 'A' recirc loop was approached, the startup test was aborted by opening the heat exchanger bypass valve and isolating the heat exchanger at the same time. By the time this was accomplished, the temperature drop reached approximately 80 - 90°F. Reactor level was dropping due to shrinkage. CRD flow was increased from 42 to 62 gpm. Temperatures were being monitored on the CRT. The recirc discharge valve was closed with the discharge bypass valve and recirc suction valve open.

0306

Reactor scrambled on low level (15"). (Note: This was an RPS actuation only. Reactor was not critical.) Shutdown cooling isolated, RHR pump 'A' tripped. Level restoration

0306 was attempted by opening condensate transfer valve but a
(continued) manual normally closed valve downstream prevented this.
Level was restored with CRD flow.

0327 NRC ENS notified

0336 RHR loops 'A' & 'B' filled & vented.

0435 Opened inboard MSIV's to stop the increasing ΔT in vessel.
CRD flow was reduced to 42 gpm and RWCU was established to
normal lineup, stopping the stratification.

0444 Restarted 'A' RHR pump in shutdown cooling lineup with
reactor level at 35". The F017 valve was not opened far
enough and the min flow valve opened. Operator tried to
close valve but did not hold in closed position. Valve
cycled open and closed in ~1 minute with flow at 4000 gpm.
Reactor scrambled on low level (~15").

0450 The F008, F009, F015 valves were opened and the F017 valve
cracked to allow level to be increased to 54" using
condensate transfer (the manual normally closed valve
downstream of the condensate transfer valve was opened
after prior scram). Operator observed a temperature
decrease from 290°F to 170°F in minutes. The F008 and
F017 valves were shut immediately. Level had initially been
recovered through CRD.

0502 While starting 'B' RHR pump in shutdown cooling, an isolation
signal was received on F008 causing the 'B' pump to trip.

0516 NRC notified of second scram.

0518 Placed RHR pump 'A' in shutdown cooling.



Pennsylvania Power & Light Company

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July 26, 1985

Dr. Thomas E. Murley
Regional Administrator, Region I
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631 Park Avenue
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SUSQUEHANNA STEAM ELECTRIC STATION
LICENSEE EVENT REPORT 83-056/03X-1
ER 100450 FILE 841-23
PLAS- 107

Docket No. 50-387
License No. NPF-14

Dear Dr. Murley:

Attached please find a copy of Licensee Event Report No. 83-056/03X-1. This event was determined to be reportable per Technical Specification 6.9.1.9.b, in that the reactor coolant system cooldown rate limit was exceeded twice within a two hour period. Concurrent with these instances, the Residual Heat Removal shutdown cooling loop required to be in operation automatically isolated. There was another occurrence of loss of shutdown cooling one day later. The unit was in Condition 3 at the time of the occurrences.

LER's 83-030/03L-0 and 83-034/03L-0 are similar in that they deal with the loss of shutdown cooling.

T.M. Crimmins, Jr.
Superintendent of Plant-Susquehanna

LAK/pjg

Attachment

cc: Mr. R.H. Jacobs
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