March 3, 1981
LL2-81-0062

Office of Inspection and Enforcement
Attn: Mr. Boyce H. Grier, Director
Region I
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
631 Park Avenue
King of Prussia, Pennsylvania 19406

Dear Sir:

Three Mile Island Nuclear Station, Unit 2 TMI-2
Operating License No. DPR-73
Docket No. 50-320
Licensee Event Report 80-051/03L-1

Attached please find revised Licensee Event Report 80-051/03L-1, concerning the identification of a deficient fire barrier seal on November 10, 1980.

This event concerns Section 3.7.1.1 and is considered reportable under Section 6.9.1.9(b) of the Interim Recovery Technical Specifications.

This update is submitted in accordance with our letter of December 11, 1980, February 03, 1981 (TLL 652 and LL2-81-0028 respectively), and a conversation between our Mr. S. D. Chaplin of TMI-2 Licensing and Mr. R. J. Conte, Senior Resident Inspector, of the Program Office on February 27, 1981.

Sincerely,

G. K. Hovey
Vice-President and
Director, TMI-2

GKH:SDC:djb

Attachments

cc: Lake Barrett, Deputy Program Director
    Dr. Bernard J. Snyder, Program Director-TMI Office

Metropolitan Edison Company is a Member of the General Public Utilities System
The event occurred due to the discovery of a crack that developed in the Fire Barrier Seal, thereby making the seal non-functional. An hourly fire watch was implemented and maintained during the seal repair. The seal was repaired and returned to service on November 10, 1980. The surveillance frequency for Firewall-50 seals will be increased from once every 18 months to once every 12 months.

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<tr>
<th>EVENT DESCRIPTION AND PROBABLE CONSEQUENCES</th>
<th>CAUSE DESCRIPTION AND CORRECTIVE ACTIONS</th>
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<tr>
<td>On November 10, 1980 a deficient fire barrier seal was discovered. Seal no. 3-484-51, located in the Service Building wall separating Unit Substation 2-22E and the mechanical Equipment Room, was observed to have an 18'' long crack which penetrated the seal. This event is not a violation of any Tech. Spec. It is reportable per Section 6.9.1.9(b) due to entry and compliance with the action statement of Tech. Spec. 3.7.1L1. This event had no effect on the plant, its operation, or the health and safety of the public.</td>
<td>The event occurred due to the discovery of a crack that developed in the Fire Barrier Seal, thereby making the seal non-functional. An hourly fire watch was implemented and maintained during the seal repair. The seal was repaired and returned on service on November 10, 1980. The surveillance frequency for Firewall-50 seals will be increased from once every 18 months to once every 12 months.</td>
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LICENSEE EVENT REPORT
NARRATIVE REPORT
TMI-2
LER 80-051/03L-1
EVENT DATE - November 10, 1980

I. EXPLANATION OF OCCURRENCE

On November 10, 1980, a deficient fire barrier seal was discovered. The deficient seal, number 3-484-51, is located on the 351'6" level of the Control Building, in the wall separating Unit Substation 2-22E from the Mechanical Equipment Room. The defect, a crack, approximately 1/2" to 5/8" wide and approximately 18" long, penetrated the 1 foot thick seal.

This event is not a violation of any Technical Specification. It is reportable under Section 6.9.1.9(b) due to entry into the action statement of specification 3.7.11. LER 79-12/03L-0 reports similar conditions.

II. CAUSE OF THE OCCURRENCE

This event occurred due to the discovery of a crack that developed in the Fire Barrier Penetration seal, thereby making the seal non-functional.

III. CIRCUMSTANCES SURROUNDING THE OCCURRENCE

At the time of the occurrence, the Unit 2 facility was in a long-term, cold shutdown state. The Reactor decay heat was being removed via steam generator which is operating in a 'steaming' mode. Throughout the event there was no Loss of Natural Circulation heat removal in the RCS System.

IV. CORRECTIVE ACTIONS TAKEN OR TO BE TAKEN

IMMEDIATE

In accordance with the action statement of Section 3.7.11, an hourly fire watch was initiated immediately and maintained until the repair was accomplished.

The seal was repaired with silicone foam in the form of Sem-Kits. Repairs were completed and the seal returned to a functional status at 2027 hours on November 10, 1980.

LONG TERM

Defective Firewall-50 seals are being considered as temporarily functional when repaired with silicone foam based on acceptance criteria agreed upon by ANI (American Nuclear Insurers) and the seal installer, Chemtrol Corporation.

In addition, the surveillance frequency for fire barrier seals made wholly or in part by Firewall-50 will be increased from 18 months to 12 months. The inspection acceptance criteria will remain consistent with that stated in Inspection Report 79-26.
CORRECTIVE ACTIONS (cont'd.)

Due to the installer's lack of producing a permanent repair method acceptable to both the licensee and ANI since the identification of this seal dehydration problem, the Licensee is requesting Chemtrol Corporation to initiate a replacement program as soon as possible. The replacement program will replace Firewall-50 seals with an approved rated fire barrier.

V. COMPONENT FAILURE DATA

Fire Barrier Penetration sealant "Firewall-50", manufactured by Western Chemical Corporation.