

AP 1001

June 1001-8

Three Mile Island Nuclear Station  
Special Operating ProcedureNOTE: Instructions and guidelines in AP 1001  
must be followed when completing  
this form.

SIDE 1

SOP No. 7-57 Rev 3  
(From SOP Log Index)

Unit No. 2

Date 4/11/79

1. Title Pressure Reduction during Degasification
2. Purpose (include purpose of SOP) To provide a controlled, monitored decrease  
RCS pressure to enhance degasification of RCS

## 3. Attach procedure to this form written according to the following format.

## A. Limitations and Precautions

1. Nuclear Safety
2. Environmental Safety
3. Personnel Safety
4. Equipment Protection

## B. Prerequisites

## C. Procedure

INTRODUCED COPY

PORC ROOM

FILE COPY

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Duration of SOP - Shall be no longer than 90 days from the effective date of the SOP or (a) or (b) below - whichever occurs first.

(a) SOP will be cancelled by incorporation into existing or new permanent procedure submitted by \_\_\_\_\_ (b) SOP is not valid after \_\_\_\_\_  
(fill in circumstances which will result in SOP being cancelled) 

## 6. (a) Is the procedure Nuclear Safety Related?

If "yes", complete Nuclear Safety Evaluation. (Side 2 of this Form)  Yes  No

## (b) Does the procedure affect Environmental Protection?

If "yes", complete Environmental Evaluation. (Side 2 of this Form)  Yes  No

## (c) Does the procedure affect radiation exposure to personnel?

 Yes  No Yes  No Yes  NoNOTE: If all answers are "no", the change may be approved by the Shift Supervisor. If any questions  
are answered "yes", the change must be approved by the Unit Superintendent.

## 7. Review and Approval

Approved - Shift Supervisor BOW Spelman 4/11/79Reviewed - List members of PORC contacted G. Burnard 4/11/79ALARA J. Jackson 4/11/79NAC C. Flanagan 4/11/79Approved - Unit Superintendent R. Holloman 4-11-79

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is Cancelled

-F. SW Telex, "Reduction of Reactor Pressure to 300  
psiE for Gas Removal", dted 4/11/79, 0240

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### 3. REFERENCES



## 5. Limits and Precautions

- a. Pressure reductions should be conducted in a slow, controlled manner. Attempt to maintain a 5 psi/min rate.
  - b. Nominal pressure reductions should not exceed 50 psi increments. ~~do not have to wait for your turn~~  
~~not exceed 50 psi in 25 psi increments~~
  - c. Minimum pressure for RCP operation is shown on attachment (a). Operation below the unrestricted pump curve and above the 3% head loss curve should be kept to a minimum. Total operation at these conditions shall not exceed five(5) hours. Actual system pressure at 275<sup>o</sup>F must be greater than 265 psig (referenced to the A loop pressure transmitter) Instrument measurement errors must be added to this pressure ( $\pm 5$  psi for PI,  $\pm 2.5$  psi if measured by DPM) (273 PSIG).
  - d. RCP vibration limits shall not be exceeded. The vibration limit is 30 mils. See note after step 7. g. In addition, if RCP current indicates 100 amp fluctuations, immediately increase pressure to the next pressure increment.
  - e. While adjusting pressure downward, spray flow pressure reduction must be continuously monitored to prevent an underpressure condition.
  - f. Terminate plant pressure reduction by this procedure if pressurizer level drops below 125 inches.
  - g. Terminate plant pressure reduction by this procedure if normal pressurizer level indication is lost or becomes erratic. Following evaluation, this procedure can be resumed. <sup>All</sup>
  - h. Any unusual changes in pressurizer level should be evaluated to determine if a bubble has reformed.
  - i. If noise monitoring indicates the presence of a bubble at any step, stop and evaluate before going to the next pressure increment.

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OR IF ANY TWO OF THE INCORE THERMOCOUPLES EXCEED AN INDICATED TEMPERATURE OF 500°F,

2

1. Reactor Coolant Thermocouples should be stable after each pressure change. If any thermocouple becomes unstable in its indication or exceeds  $T_{sat}$  by 50°F or if the six highest <sup>Temperature Indication</sup> thermocouples exceed 460°F, immediately increase pressure to the next pressure increment.

1. Hot leg temperatures shall be maintained at 75°F subcooled for primary system pressure.

Increase pressure if this limit is violated.

Pressure (psig)	$T_{sat}$ (°F)
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280	411
-----	-----

290	414
-----	-----

300	417
-----	-----

350	431
-----	-----

400	445
-----	-----

n. RCS loop A pressure instrument RC 3A-P74 (computer point 349) should be used as the controlling pressure readout during this procedure when above 500 psig. Below 500 psig, use RC 3A-P74 and the installed pressure gauge. If RC 3A-P74 varies more than 27 psi from the Heise gauge pressure reading, return to the next higher pressure increments.

o. Pressure control shall be maintained at  $\pm 50$  psig around the nominal pressure.

p. During the final step to 300 psig, pressure shall be maintained at  $300 \pm 50, -0$  psig.

q. If pressure control is lost do not secure the RCP.

## 6. Prerequisites

- a. Confirm RCP 1A is lined up and available to start. This does not require starting RCP 1A. Confirm the availability of the oil lift system of ECF 1A.
- b. All available heaters on and in manual at maximum heat rate.
- c. Spray valve in manual. Spray flow adjusted to maximize degasification rate for the available heat input by the pressurizer heaters.
- d. Pressurizer level about 225 inches.~~± 100 inches~~
- e. RCS pressure stable at preselected value (approx. 950 psig.)
- f. Normal pressurizer level indication is available in the control room.
- g. NRC approval must be obtained prior to commencing pressure reduction and prior to beginning each pressure reduction ~~freezeout~~.

## 7. Procedure

~~50 psig~~

- a. Commence monitoring RCS vibration. Notify the BTW sound and vibration monitoring team. If available, monitor source and intermediate range detector signals by strip chart when below 500 psig nominal pressure.
- b. Monitor the rate of pressure decrease continuously.
- c. Lower primary system pressure (as read on computer point 399 on RC-3A-P12) by controlling spray flow and heater operation to decrease pressure in 25 psi increments. Stabilize at the new pressure. If any hot leg temperature indication approaches within  $75^{\circ}\text{F}$  of  $T_{set}$ , increase pressure to the next higher increment.

### NOTE

If pressure is increased greater than 100 psig above the last complete pressure step, it is permissible to reduce pressure to within 100 psig of the last complete

NOTE:

At 425 psig and at 350 psig as read on RC-34 PT 4  
(computer point 398) compare the pressure readings on both the  
Hose Guide and the computer point 399. Use the lower instrument  
while approaching the final pressure or 300 psig.

4 3

d. Monitor RCS temperature and pressure and plot  
on Attachment A and record on Attachment B.  
In addition record RCS 1 mils vibration and RCS 10  
current.

e. Lower primary system pressure by ~~25 psi steps~~  
~~25 psi steps~~ ~~increments~~. Record the five hottest <sup>INCORE</sup> thermocouples  
or Attachment B, evaluate temperature changes  
superheat and stability as required by item  
5.1.e.

f. Upon completion of each 50 psi pressure reduction, obtain a report from  
the sound and vibration monitoring team and perform a bubble check. Bubble  
check consists of opening the pressurizer vent valve (RC-V137) while at the  
upper end of the current increment pressure band to allow a pressure drop of  
50-75 psig, then shutting RC-V137. If pressurizer level does not increase,  
then no bubble exists. If pressurizer level increases, degasification at the  
existing pressure should continue until this test indicates no bubble. If

noise monitoring indicates the presence of a bubble, maintain this pressure  
until noise analysis indicates bubbles are no longer present. Allow incore  
thermocouple readings to stabilize prior to proceeding to the next pressure  
increment.

Note-

If 25 mils vibration is reached, stop and  
evaluate prior to proceeding to the next  
pressure increment. If RCS vibration limit  
of 30 mils is exceeded or if noise monitoring  
team indicates high vibration in the RCS or any T1,  
temperature increases to  $T_{set} \pm 50^{\circ}\text{F}$ , return  
to the next higher 50 psig increment pressure  
level or to 300 psig whichever is higher.

- h. Repeat steps a through f (with NRC approval for each step) until the 300 psig primary system pressure step is completed. Do not allow pressure to drop below 300 psig.

- CAUTION -

If RCS pressure drops below 300 psig, immediately secure spray flow and pressurizer venting and increase pressure above 300 psig using maximum pressurizer heaters. Monitor RCP vibration and current continuously while below 300 psig. If spray flow or venting cannot be secured, follow ~~procedure at 1000 psig~~ per ED-17, 18, or 30.

DO NOT SECURE REACTOR COOLANT PUMP

- i. Return primary system pressure to 1000 ± 50 psig after degassing is complete at 300 psig.

MEDIUM REQUIRED RC PRESSURE VERSUS RC  
TEMPERATURE FOR SINGLE PUMP OPERATION

1000

900

800

700

600 INCREASE IN HEAD

500

400

300

200

This CURVE INCLUDES  
+ 100 PSIG FOR INST. ERROR  
(Must be corrected for actual inst. error)

INCREASE IN HEAD

LOWER LIMIT RC PRES IS TEMP

RC TEMPERATURE - F

OUT 51

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Attachment "B"

Proc No. Z-57

Sheet No. \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_

## Pressure Reduction During Degassification

Attachment B (cont)

RCP