



NRC-00-020

**Wisconsin Public Service Corporation**  
(a subsidiary of WPS Resources Corporation)  
Kewaunee Nuclear Power Plant  
North 490, Highway 42  
Kewaunee, WI 54216-9511  
920-388-2560

March 1, 2000

10 CFR 73.71

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

Ladies/Gentlemen:

Docket 50-305  
Operating License DPR-43  
Kewaunee Nuclear Power Plant  
Reportable Occurrence 2000-S01-00

In accordance with the requirements of 10CFR73.71, "Reporting of Safeguards Events," the attached Licensee Event Report (LER) for reportable occurrence 2000-S01-00 is being submitted.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mark L. Marchi".

Mark L. Marchi  
Vice President-Nuclear

DLP

Attach.

cc - INPO Records Center  
US NRC Senior Resident Inspector  
US NRC, Region III

IE 74  
11

**LICENSEE EVENT REPORT (LER)**

(See reverse for required number of digits/characters for each block)

Estimated burden per response to comply with this mandatory information collection request: 50 hrs. Reported lessons learned are incorporated into the licensing process and fed back to industry. Forward comments regarding burden estimate to the Records Management Branch (T-6 F33), U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, DC 20555-0001, and to the Paperwork Reduction Project (3150-0104), Office of Management and Budget, Washington, DC 20503. If an information collection does not display a currently valid OMB control number, the NRC may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, the information collection.

FACILITY NAME (1)

Kewaunee Nuclear Power Plant

DOCKET NUMBER (2)

05000305

PAGE (3)

1 OF 5

TITLE (4)

Former Plant Employee Access Denied Due to Falsification of Access Request and Employment Application Information

| 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 NAME                 | DOCKET NUMBER                                 |
| 01                                                                                                 | 31  | 2000 | 2000           | S01                | 00              | 03                | 01  | 2000             |                               | 05000                                         |
| <p>THIS REPORT IS SUBMITTED PURSUANT TO THE REQUIREMENTS OF 10 CFR §: (Check one or more) (11)</p> |     |      |                |                    |                 |                   |     |                  |                               |                                               |
| OPERATING MODE (9)                                                                                 |     | N    |                | 20.2201(b)         |                 | 20.2203(a)(2)(v)  |     | 50.73(a)(2)(i)   |                               | 50.73(a)(2)(viii)                             |
| POWER LEVEL (10)                                                                                   |     | 097  |                | 20.2203(a)(1)      |                 | 20.2203(a)(3)(i)  |     | 50.73(a)(2)(ii)  |                               | 50.73(a)(2)(x)                                |
|                                                                                                    |     |      |                | 20.2203(a)(2)(i)   |                 | 20.2203(a)(3)(ii) |     | 50.73(a)(2)(iii) |                               | X 73.71                                       |
|                                                                                                    |     |      |                | 20.2203(a)(2)(ii)  |                 | 20.2203(a)(4)     |     | 50.73(a)(2)(iv)  |                               | OTHER                                         |
|                                                                                                    |     |      |                | 20.2203(a)(2)(iii) |                 | 50.36(c)(1)       |     | 50.73(a)(2)(v)   |                               | Specify in Abstract below or in NRC Form 366A |
|                                                                                                    |     |      |                | 20.2203(a)(2)(iv)  |                 | 50.36(c)(2)       |     | 50.73(a)(2)(vii) |                               |                                               |

LICENSEE CONTACT FOR THIS LER (12)

NAME

Darlene L Peters - Security Administration Supervisor

TELEPHONE NUMBER (Include Area Code)

(920) 388-8323

COMPLETE ONE LINE FOR EACH COMPONENT FAILURE DESCRIBED IN THIS REPORT (13)

| CAUSE | SYSTEM | COMPONENT | MANUFACTURER | REPORTABLE TO EPIX | CAUSE | SYSTEM | COMPONENT | MANUFACTURER | REPORTABLE TO EPIX |
|-------|--------|-----------|--------------|--------------------|-------|--------|-----------|--------------|--------------------|
|       |        |           |              |                    |       |        |           |              |                    |
|       |        |           |              |                    |       |        |           |              |                    |

SUPPLEMENTAL REPORT EXPECTED (14)

YES (If yes, complete EXPECTED SUBMISSION DATE).

X NO

EXPECTED SUBMISSION DATE (15)

MONTH DAY YEAR

ABSTRACT (Limit to 1400 spaces, i.e., approximately 15 single-spaced typewritten lines) (16)

On January 31, 2000, Wisconsin Public Service Corporation (WPSC) reported that a former employee had falsified his applications for employment and access authorization with regard to his education. The employee had been granted unrestricted access to the Kewaunee Nuclear Power Plant based on a temporary clearance for less than one full calendar month. Access was granted based on a temporary background investigation that did not indicate any adverse information. The individual had been previously hired as a contractor. However, for the contracted periods the individual was not badged for protected area access. The former employee resigned prior to WPSC receiving a full formal report on his background. The background investigation report indicated that the individual's claims to college education and associated degree as indicated on his application for employment and access authorization were false. At the time of identification it was also known that the individual had unescorted access at the D.C. Cook facility.

Subsequent to confronting the individual and presenting him with the report results, it was determined that the individual deliberately falsified the information. Consequently, WPSC informed the individual that his access authorization request was denied.

This event is being reported in accordance with the guidance provided by Generic Letter 91-03. The information received on the individual is considered to be sufficient to have caused WPSC to deny or withdraw his access authorization had it been known when unrestricted access was granted.

**LICENSEE EVENT REPORT (LER)**  
TEXT CONTINUATION

| FACILITY NAME (1)            | DOCKET (2) | LER NUMBER (6) |                   |                 | PAGE (3) |
|------------------------------|------------|----------------|-------------------|-----------------|----------|
|                              |            | YEAR           | SEQUENTIAL NUMBER | REVISION NUMBER |          |
| Kewaunee Nuclear Power Plant | 05000305   | 2000           | -- S01            | -- 00           | 2 OF 5   |

TEXT (If more space is required, use additional copies of NRC Form 366A) (17)

DESCRIPTION OF EVENT

On January 31, 2000, Wisconsin Public Service Corporation (WPSC) reported that a former employee had falsified his applications for employment and access authorization with regard to his education. The employee had been granted unrestricted access to the Kewaunee Nuclear Power Plant (KNPP) based on a temporary clearance for less than one full calendar month. Access was granted based a temporary background investigation that did not indicate any adverse information. The individual was granted unescorted access from August 16, 1999 to September 10, 1999. The individual had been previously hired as a contractor. However, for the contracted periods the individual was not badged for protected area access. The individual was employed as an unbadged contractor from August 4, 1998 through December 31, 1998 and again from April 1, 1999 through July 31, 1999. The former employee resigned prior to WPSC receiving a full formal report on his background. The background investigation report indicated that the individual's claims to college education and associated degree as indicated on his application for employment and access authorization were false.

On January 27, 2000, the KNPP Security Administration Supervisor was reviewing full background investigation results that had been returned from Confidential Services, a contracted investigative agency. Upon review of the individual's file, Capitol College stated that he had not been awarded a diploma. This was contrary to the information supplied on his Personal History Statement that he had attended Capital College from 1981-1983 and had graduated with a Bachelor of Science in Electronics and Engineering Technology. The Security Administration Supervisor contacted Confidential Services and requested a reverification of the information provided from Capital College. Since WPSC was aware that the individual involved held unescorted access at the D. C. Cook Facility, the Security Administration Supervisor notified the Access Authorization Supervisor at D. C. Cook that the potential of falsification was present.

**LICENSEE EVENT REPORT (LER)**  
TEXT CONTINUATION

| FACILITY NAME (1)            | DOCKET (2) | LER NUMBER (6) |                   |                 | PAGE (3) |
|------------------------------|------------|----------------|-------------------|-----------------|----------|
|                              |            | YEAR           | SEQUENTIAL NUMBER | REVISION NUMBER |          |
| Kewaunee Nuclear Power Plant | 05000305   | 2000           | -- S01            | -- 00           | 3 OF 5   |

TEXT (If more space is required, use additional copies of NRC Form 366A) (17)

The KNPP Security Administration Supervisor reviewed copies of the individual's employment application and resume. Review of this material indicated that he had listed other colleges with earned degrees that had not been listed on his Personal History Statement. The KNPP Security Administration Supervisor also contacted the Access Authorization Supervisor at D. C. Cook and compared the information listed on the Kewaunee documentation with the information given at D. C. Cook. Neither of the applications nor security paperwork was filled out the same.

On January 28, 2000 the investigator from Confidential Services indicated that Capital College had confirmed that no degree had been awarded. It was also reported that the individual had only attended Capital College from 09-24-81 through 12-16-81.

Subsequent contacts with the Access Authorization Supervisor at D. C. Cook revealed that the individual had been informed that he would have to bring in proof of his educational claims. When notified, the individual stated that his house had burned several years ago and he had lost all of his personal belongings. He also stated that he could not provide any references that would be able to verify his college attendance because he could not remember anyone who went to school with him.

On January 31, 2000, the Security Director and Security Administration Supervisor from Kewaunee, the individual, his Supervisor, and the Access Authorization Supervisor from the D.C. Cook Plant held a teleconference. During the conference the individual admitted that he did not have the college degrees he had listed on his Personnel History Statements at Kewaunee and D. C. Cook. Subsequently, the individual was notified that he was denied access to the Kewaunee site.

CAUSE OF THE EVENT

Why the individual falsified his applications was not specifically pursued. Since the individual is no longer employed by WPSC, pursuit of the cause was unjustified.

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**TEXT CONTINUATION**

| FACILITY NAME (1)            | DOCKET (2) | LER NUMBER (6) |                   |                 | PAGE (3) |
|------------------------------|------------|----------------|-------------------|-----------------|----------|
|                              |            | YEAR           | SEQUENTIAL NUMBER | REVISION NUMBER |          |
| Kewaunee Nuclear Power Plant | 05000305   | 2000           | -- S01            | -- 00           | 4 OF 5   |

TEXT (If more space is required, use additional copies of NRC Form 366A) (17)

ANALYSIS OF THE EVENT

This event is being reported in accordance with 10CFR73.71(a)(4), 30 day follow-up to telephonic notifications. A one hour telephonic report was made on January 31, 2000, in accordance with Generic Letter (GL) 91-03 guidance. This is an event that would have resulted in denying access to an individual based on falsification of documentation. Although the individual was not employed by WPSC at the time of identification, had he still been employed, access authorization would have been revoked. Also, had the act of falsifying documents been known prior to granting access, access would have been denied.

WPSC does not take falsification of records lightly and is aware of the potential safety significance of falsification of records. However, this event has no safety significance. The individual's actions while employed did not result in any conditions that would compromise plant safety. The individual's responsibilities were restricted to the plant's simulator. An independent verification of simulator performance and modeling was conducted to all the work he had or may have performed. Additionally, simulator performance testing is developed and conducted by licensed or certified Reactor and or Senior Reactor Operators.

Members of the security department also reviewed the security roll call logs. During the time that the individual had access, it was noted that the access remained restricted to the protected area.

CORRECTIVE ACTIONS

- The individual's access authorization has been revoked at KNPP.
- The individual's access status was updated in the Personnel Access Data System (PADS) and the Access Authorization Supervisor at the D. C. Cook Plant was notified of the falsification.
- The Kewaunee Training Group conducted a verification of work performed by individual while he was employed at KNPP. No abnormalities were identified.

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TEXT CONTINUATION

| FACILITY NAME (1)            | DOCKET (2) | LER NUMBER (6) |                   |                 | PAGE (3) |  |
|------------------------------|------------|----------------|-------------------|-----------------|----------|--|
| Kewaunee Nuclear Power Plant | 05000305   | YEAR           | SEQUENTIAL NUMBER | REVISION NUMBER | 5 OF 5   |  |
|                              |            | 2000           | -- S01            | -- 00           |          |  |

TEXT (If more space is required, use additional copies of NRC Form 366A) (17)

- Members of the security department reviewed the roll call logs. The individual had entered the plant infrequently and unescorted access was limited to the Protected Area. No Vital Area entries were found.
- A review was conducted regarding tracking and trending methods used by access authorization personnel. This review concluded that the systems employed for tracking and trending temporary background investigations performed well. The process for reviewing background investigations also performed as expected.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

As a condition of employment, KNPP's hiring supervisor, the Process Leader – Simulator Support, was requested by Human Resources to verify personage of this individual by requesting to see his driver's license and to verify his educational qualifications. The hiring supervisor verified his personage against his driver's license and requested proof of education. At the time, the hiring supervisor was told that his diplomas were boxed-up in preparation for his family's move to the area. This seemed reasonable at the time, and it was understood that it would be supplied when he was settled. The individual resigned after about one month employment and had not turned over the proof of education during that time.

SIMILAR EVENTS

LER 1998-S18-00, "Contract Employee Access Authorization Withdrawn – Individual Failed to Provide Accurate Criminal History Data."