

Tennessee Valley Authority, Post Office Box 2000, Decatur, Alabama 35609-2000

December 14, 2012

10 CFR 50.73

ATTN: Document Control Desk U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission Washington, D.C. 20555-0001

> Browns Ferry Nuclear Plant, Units 1, 2, and 3 Facility Operating License Nos. DPR-33, DPR-52, and DPR-68 NRC Docket Nos. 50-259, 50-260, and 50-296

Subject: Licensee Event Report 50-259/2012-008-01

Reference: Letter from TVA to NRC, "Licensee Event Report 50-259/2012-008-00," dated October 1, 2012

In the reference letter dated October 1, 2012, the Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA) submitted a Licensee Event Report (LER) containing details of the Standby Gas Treatment System Train C being inoperable for longer than allowed by Browns Ferry Nuclear Plant's Technical Specifications. The LER indicated that additional reviews of the causal analysis were ongoing, and upon completion of the additional reviews, a supplement to the LER would be submitted. The TVA is submitting this supplement to LER 50-259/2012-008-00 in accordance with 10 CFR 50.73(a)(2)(i)(B), any operation or condition which was prohibited by the plant's Technical Specifications.

There are no new regulatory commitments contained in this letter. Should you have any questions concerning this submittal, please contact J. E. Emens, Jr., Nuclear Site Licensing Manager, at (256) 729-2636.

pectfully S.BOND By DIREC K. Polson FOR Vice President

Enclosure: Licensee Event Report 50-259/2012-008-01 – Standby Gas Treatment System Train C Inoperable Longer Than Allowed by Technical Specifications

cc: See Page 2

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cc (w/ Enclosure):

NRC Regional Administrator - Region II NRC Senior Resident Inspector - Browns Ferry Nuclear Plant

ENCLOSURE

Browns Ferry Nuclear Plant Units 1, 2, and 3

Licensee Event Report 50-259/2012-008-01

Standby Gas Treatment System Train C Inoperable Longer Than Allowed by Technical Specifications

See Enclosed

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(10-2010)	(10-2010) Estimated burden per response to comply with this mandatory collection reques 80 hours. Reported lessons learned are incorporated into the licensing process an fed back to industry. Send comments regarding burden estimate to FOIA/Privac Section (T-5 F53), U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, DC 20553 0001, or by internet e-mail to infocollects, resource@nrc.gov, and to the Desk Office Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, NEOB-10202, (3150-0104), Office I Management and Budget, Washington, DC 20503. If a means used to impose a information collection does not display a currently valid OMB control number, th NRC may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, th information collection.									on request: rocess and DIA/Privacy DC 20555- esk Officer,), Office of impose an umber, the ond to, the								
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Mark	Mark Acker, Licensing Engineer 256-729-7533																	
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	On August 2, 2012, at 1232 hours Central Daylight Time, the Browns Ferry Nuclear Plant (BFN), Unit 2 Standby Gas Treatment (SGT) Train C relative humidity heater was placed into service which resulted in an Annunciator Alarm, SGT C Filter Bank Heater Element Power Lost. Troubleshooting identified the 2A																	
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NRC FORM 366A

(10-2010)

U.S. NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

LICENSEE EVENT REPORT (LER)

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NARRATIVE

I. PLANT CONDITION(S)

At the time of discovery, Browns Ferry Nuclear Plant (BFN), Units 1, 2, and 3, were in Mode 1 at 100 percent rated thermal power.

II. DESCRIPTION OF EVENT

A. Event:

On August 2, 2012, at 1232 hours Central Daylight Time (CDT), the BFN, Unit 2, Main Control Room placed the Standby Gas Treatment (SGT) [BH] Train C relative humidity heater [EHTR] into service which resulted in an Annunciator Alarm [ALM], SGT C Filter Bank Heater Element Power Lost. An Auxiliary Unit Operator responded to perform an initial investigation and noted that the local heater run light [IL] located on the 480 Volt (V) SGT Board [BD] appeared to dim when the heater was energized. Troubleshooting identified that voltage from the 480V Alternating Current (AC) supply power to the relative humidity heater would lower and then return to the specified normal voltage. On August 2, 2012. at 1414 hours CDT. after completion of initial troubleshooting. Operations declared SGT Train C inoperable. With the SGT Train C relative humidity heater unable to perform its function, Technical Specifications (TS) Surveillance Requirement 3.6.4.3.1, which requires operating each SGT subsystem for greater than or equal to 10 continuous hours with heaters operating, could not be met. Further troubleshooting identified that the 2A Motor Control Center (MCC) [MCC] breaker [BKR] bucket containing breaker BFN-0-BKR-065-0060 was misaligned resulting in poor contact with the C phase of the electrical supply bus [BU].

The breaker bucket is designed with the electrical bus bar connections located in the bottom of the bucket, held securely in place to the MCC cubicle by two retaining devices located at the top and bottom, centered in the cubicle. The breaker bucket connection stabs were not fully engaged with the electrical bus and only the top retaining device, one of two required retaining devices, was installed in the MCC. On August 3, 2012, a spare retaining device was installed to replace the missing device. On August 3, 2012, at 1517 hours CDT, after satisfactory completion of post maintenance testing, Operations declared SGT Train C Operable.

The last documented evidence of the bottom retaining device being correctly installed in the cubicle is in Work Order (WO) 09-726490-000, performed on December 13, 2010. The 2A MCC breaker bucket was removed and reinstalled using Electrical Corrective Instruction (ECI)-0-000-BKR008, Testing and Troubleshooting of Molded Case Circuit Breakers and Motor Starter Overload Relays, which requires installation of the breaker bucket with top and bottom retaining devices. The next time work was performed on the breaker bucket was for a Preventive Maintenance (PM), under WO 112239630, on September 12, 2011. The 2A MCC breaker bucket was removed and reinstalled using Electrical Preventive Instruction (EPI)-0-000-MCC001, Maintenance and Inspection of 480 V AC and 250 V DC Motor Control Centers, which allows installation of the breaker bucket with a single retaining device. This was the last documented time that the breaker bucket was removed from the cubicle before the August 2, 2012, failure. It

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	is probable that the bottom retaining device was not re-installed during the execution of the preventive maintenance performed under WO 112239630. It is unlikely the SGT Train C relative humidity heater would have functioned properly during a seismic event without the bottom retaining device installed. Therefore, the past operability evaluation concluded that the SGT Train C relative humidity heater had been inoperable from September 12, 2011, until August 3, 2012, when the bottom retaining device was installed, firmly securing the breaker bucket in the cubicle with the breaker stabs securely engaged to the electrical supply bus.										
	On May 24, 2012, corrective maintenance was performed on 480V SGT 2A MCC using ECI-0-000-BKR008. Under WO 113517204, the molded case circuit breaker within the bucket was replaced. The bucket was not removed for this work; however, work within the bucket could have exercised the bucket inside the cubicle causing the bottom of the bucket to move outward. This would result in reduced stab engagement if the bottom-center retaining device was missing.										
	Between May 24, 2012, and August 2, 2012, SGT Train C was operated 11 times as necessary to support plant operations. The last time SGT Train C was placed in service before the August 02, 2012, failure was July 31, 2012. Investigation into the conditions around the SGT Board during this time did not uncover any activity. If the work performed on May 24, 2012, resulted in reduced stab engagement, as stated above, vibrations caused by the main contactor energizing and de-energizing could have further agitated the stab to bus bar connection to the point that the C phase stab had poor contact with the bus bar resulting in the August 2, 2012, SGT C Filter										
В.	Inoperable Structures, Comp	<u>onents, or S</u>	vstems f	<u>that Contrib</u>	outed to t	<u>he Event:</u>					
	There were no inoperable struc event.	tures, compo	onents, or	r systems tha	at contribu	uted to this					
C.	Dates and Approximate Time	s of Major O	ccurren	<u>ces:</u>							
December 13, 2010 Electrical Corrective Instruction, ECI-0-000-BKR008, was performed of the 2A MCC.											
	September 12, 2011 Electrical Preventive Instruction, EPI-0-000-MCC001, was performed on the 2A MCC.										
	May 24, 2012		Circuit b replaced	reaker inside I.	e the 2A N	1CC was					
	August 2, 2012, at 1232 hours (CDT	Operatio SGT C F Power L	ons received Filter Bank Ho ost.	Annuncia eater Eler	itor Alarm, ment					

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	August 2, 2012, at 1414 hours CDT			npletión of i hooting, Op iin C inoper	initial erations d able.	eclared					
	August 3, 2012			Troubleshooting identified that the 2A MCC breaker bucket was not fully engaged with the electrical bus and only one of the two retaining devices was installed. A spare retaining device was installed to replace the missing retaining device.							
	August 3, 2012, at 1517 hours (CDT	After satisfactory completion of post maintenance testing, Operations declared SGT Train C Operable.								
D.	Other Systems or Secondary	Functions	Affected								
	There were no other systems or secondary functions affected.										
Ε.	Method of Discovery										
	Operations received an alarm a service. Troubleshooting identit misaligned resulting in poor con	fter placing t fied the asso itact with the	he SGT ciated 2A C phase	Train C relat MCC breat of the elect	tive humid ker bucke trical supp	ity heater in t was ly bus.					

F. Operator Actions

There were no operator actions.

G. Safety System Responses

There were no safety system responses.

III. CAUSE OF THE EVENT

A. Immediate Cause

The immediate cause was determined to be the missing bottom retaining device in the breaker bucket of the 2A MCC. This configuration allowed the breaker bucket to become misaligned and resulted in inadequate engagement of the breaker stab to the C phase of the electrical supply bus.

B. Root Cause

The root cause of this event was EPI-0-000-MCC001, Maintenance and Inspection of 480 V AC and 250 V DC Motor Control Centers, provides inadequate instruction by allowing installation of a breaker bucket in an ITE Gould 5600 Series MCC with a single retaining device.

C. Contributing Factors

The event had two contributing causes. First, Electrical Maintenance craft personnel failed to follow procedure NPG-SPP-01.2, Administration of Site Technical

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Procedures, with respect to requirements for procedure use and adherence by not stopping and questioning problematic procedure steps. Second, Electrical Maintenance Qualification Standards EMQ001.088, and EMQ001.015 do not identify the importance of adequately securing a MCC bucket in the cubicle.											
IV. ANALYSIS OF THE EVENT											
TVA is submitting this report in accordance with 10 CFR 50.73(a)(2)(i)(B), as any operation or condition which was prohibited by the plant's TS.											
The SGT System is a common syst and 3, TS Limiting Condition for Op System, requires three SGT subsyst during operations with a potential for SGT subsystem inoperable, TS 3.6 subsystem to be restored to Operal restored to Operable status in 7 day Actions B.1 and B.2 require the uni 36 hours. If the SGT subsystem ca OPDRVs, TS 3.6.4.3 Required Acti Operable SGT subsystems in opera OPDRVs. With two or three SGT s Required Action D.1 requires imme actions to be initiated within 1 hour within 13 hours, and Mode 4 within when an LCO is not met except und event.	The SGT System is a common system for BFN, Units 1, 2, and 3. The BFN Units, 1, 2 and 3, TS Limiting Condition for Operation (LCO) 3.6.4.3, Standby Gas Treatment (SGT) System, requires three SGT subsystems to be Operable, during Modes 1, 2, and 3, and during operations with a potential for draining the reactor vessel (OPDRVs). With one SGT subsystem inoperable, TS 3.6.4.3 Required Action A.1 requires the SGT subsystem to be restored to Operable status in 7 days. If the SGT subsystem cannot be restored to Operable status in 7 days, while in Mode 1, 2, or 3, TS 3.6.4.3 Required Actions B.1 and B.2 require the unit to be in Mode 3 in 12 hours and in Mode 4 in 36 hours. If the SGT subsystem cannot be restored to Operable status in 7 days, during OPDRVs, TS 3.6.4.3 Required Actions C.1 and C.2 require immediate placement of two Operable SGT subsystems in operation and immediate initiation of actions to suspend OPDRVs. With two or three SGT subsystems inoperable in Mode 1, 2, or 3, TS 3.6.4.3 Required Action D.1 requires immediate entry into LCO 3.0.3, which would require actions to be initiated within 1 hour to place the unit in Mode 2 within 10 hours, Mode 3 within 13 hours, and Mode 4 within 37 hours. Also, LCO 3.0.4 prohibits Mode changes when an LCO is not met except under certain conditions that were not applicable to this										
BFN, Units 1, 2, and 3, operated wi to August 3, 2012. Since it was no the completion of the past operabili one inoperable SGT subsystem for Action A.1, i.e., 7 days.	BFN, Units 1, 2, and 3, operated with SGT Train C inoperable from September 12, 2011, to August 3, 2012. Since it was not recognized that SGT Train C was inoperable until the completion of the past operability evaluation, BFN, Units 1, 2 and 3, operated with one inoperable SGT subsystem for longer than allowed by TS 3.6.4.3 Required Action A.1, i.e., 7 days.										
The BFN Operations logs were rev were inoperable during the time pe the review are as follows.	The BFN Operations logs were reviewed to determine if other SGT trains/subsystems were inoperable during the time period of the SGT Train C inoperability. The results of the review are as follows.										
 January 25, 2012, to January 2 April 26, 2012, to April 30, 2012 May 4, 2012, from 1749 hours 6 May 30, 2012, to May 31, 2012 June 6, 2012, to June 12, 2012 July 30, 2012, to August 1, 201 	9, 2012 2 CDT to 2248 2 2 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5	hours C	SGT SGT DT SGT SGT SGT SGT	Train A ind Train A ind Train A ind Train A ind Train B ind Train A ind	operable operable operable operable operable operable until						
completion of the past operability e inoperable SGT subsystems for lor	valuation, Br	N, Units	1, 2, and 3, TS 3.6.4.3 R	operated equired A	with two ction D.1,						

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i.e., longer than the times allowed by LCO 3.0.3, during each of the time periods listed above.

The review of the BFN Operations logs also determined that, for BFN, Unit 3, from April 15, 2012, until April 16, 2012, OPDRVs were performed during a refueling outage. Since it was not recognized that SGT Train C was inoperable until completion of the past operability evaluation, BFN, Unit 3, did not comply with TS 3.6.4.3 Required Actions C.1 and C.2, i.e., immediately place two Operable SGT subsystems in operation and immediately initiate actions to suspend OPDRVs.

During the time period from September 12, 2011, to August 3, 2012, since it was not recognized that SGT Train C was inoperable until completion of the past operability evaluation, the following Mode changes were performed which were prohibited by LCO 3.0.4.

- BFN, Unit 1, started up from a mid-cycle outage and transitioned from Mode 4 to Mode 2 on December 13, 2011, at 1117 hours Central Standard Time.
- BFN, Unit 3, started up from a forced outage and transitioned from Mode 3 to Mode 2 on September 29, 2011, at 1658 hours CDT.
- BFN, Unit 3, started up from a refueling outage and transitioned from Mode 4 to Mode 2 on May 19, 2012, at 2241 hours CDT.
- BFN, Unit 3, recovered from a reactor scram and transitioned from Mode 4 to Mode 2 on May 23, 2012, at 0924 hours CDT.
- BFN, Unit 3, recovered from a reactor scram and transitioned from Mode 3 to Mode 2 on May 24, 2012, at 2225 hours CDT.
- BFN, Unit 3, recovered from a reactor scram and transitioned from Mode 4 to Mode 2 on June 2, 2012, at 1658 hours CDT.

Based on the results of the past operability evaluation and the review of BFN Operations logs, BFN, Units 1, 2 and 3, operated with inoperable SGT subsystem(s) for longer than allowed by TS 3.6.4.3. In addition, due to the inoperability of the SGT subsystem, TS 3.0.4 was not met for each BFN, Unit 1, and BFN, Unit 3, applicable Mode change that occurred since September 12, 2011.

This condition is the result of a missing bottom retaining device in the breaker bucket of the 2A MCC. This configuration allowed the breaker bucket to become misaligned and resulted in inadequate engagement of the breaker stab to the C phase of the electrical supply bus.

The last time the bucket in question was removed prior to the discovery that the lower retaining device was missing, was during preventive maintenance performed on September 12, 2011. Preventive maintenance is performed under EPI-0-000-MCC001. Step 7.4[6.3] of EMI-0-000-MCC001 directs the Electrical Maintenance technician to turn the retaining screw(s) mounted in the top-center and/or bottom-center positions of the bucket until the associated pawl(s) are in the vertical position. Although both of the screws are mentioned, the procedure allows just one of the retaining devices to be engaged in re-installing the bucket. The craft personnel interpreted the procedure steps

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from habit as a result of legacy the procedure deficiencies. The "top-center and/or bottom-center 2005, but no reason was given situation in which only a single It is probable that, during the ex EPI-0-000-MCC001, the bottom determined that the SGT Train during a seismic event without operability evaluation conclude	errors in the app e phrase "top-ce er" in Revision 62 for the change in retaining device kecution of the pr n retaining device C relative humid the bottom retain d that the SGT T	roved pro nter and of EMI-(n the revi should be reventive was not ity heater ing devic rain C re	ocedure an bottom-cen 0-000-MCC sion comme e used. maintenan t re-installed r would hav ce installed. lative humid	d did not rec ter" was cha 001 on Octo ents. There ce performed d. It could no e functioned Therefore, dity heater h	ognize nged to ober 4, is no d under ot be properly the past ad been				
inoperable from September 12, device was installed, firmly sec stabs securely engaged to the	2011, until Augu uring the breake electrical supply	ust 3, 201 bucket i bus.	2, when the	e bottom retailer in le with the bi	aining reaker				
One factor that contributes to the use of procedure use and adhe technician to stop performance the words "and/or." Choosing "o single retaining device) should ensuring equipment is properly Electrical, and Electrical Modifio requirements of procedure use	his condition is pro- erence should hat of the procedure or" (that is, secur have conflicted v secured upon in cations personne and adherence of	ocedure ve compe on Sept ing the b vith the b stallation and sup on Octob	use and ad elled the Ele ember 12, 2 ucket stabs asic mainte asic mainte er 16, 2012	lherence. Pr ectrical Main 2011, upon r to the bus b nance pract Maintenanc ere be briefe	roper tenance reaching par with a ice of re, FIN d on the				
The second contributing cause that the MCC Training and Qua consequences of inadequate in ensure the bucket is secured as EMQ001.015 were revised to a bucket in the cubicle.	The second contributing cause is training. Training was identified to be inadequate in that the MCC Training and Qualification program does not address the possible consequences of inadequate installation of MCC buckets into a cubicle and the need to ensure the bucket is secured as designed. Qualification Standards EMQ001.088 and EMQ001.015 were revised to address the importance of adequately securing a MCC bucket in the cubicle.								
Extent of Cause									
The extent of cause review was voltage electrical distribution pa engage and disengage stabs to EPI-0-000-MCC001, the only of less is ECI-0-000-BKR008. At required installation of the brea September 24, 2012, ECI-0-000 updated procedure removed th retaining devices and replaces This condition is addressed by	Extent of Cause The extent of cause review was limited to procedures for MCCs of 480V or less. Higher voltage electrical distribution panels have rack-out mechanisms rather than buckets to engage and disengage stabs to and from the associated bus bars. Other than EPI-0-000-MCC001, the only other procedure that is used to install MCCs of 480V or less is ECI-0-000-BKR008. At the time of the event ECI-0-000-BKR008 Revision 92 required installation of the breaker bucket with top and bottom retaining devices. On September 24, 2012, ECI-0-000-BKR-008 Revision 93 was approved for use. The updated procedure removed the "and" requirement to replace both the top and bottom retaining devices and replaces those steps with different language that is less definitive. This condition is addressed by the corrective actions to prevent recurrence.								
Extent of Condition									
The extent of condition covers	other ITE Series	5600 MC	Ccs and sat	fety related 4	180\/ and				

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NARRATIVE

Board and Radwaste Board 3 was completed on September 21, 2012, to ensure that all breaker buckets in the ITE 5600 Series MCC cubicles are installed correctly. The only identified defect was on the 480V SGT Board. Breaker bucket 2F is currently installed with only the top-center retaining device present. The bottom-center retaining device was removed from this compartment to replace the original missing device from compartment 2A. Breaker bucket 2F is a spare compartment and this poses no safety significance for any plant system. A second sampling inspection was performed on safety related, 480V and smaller, MCC boards that contain other types of MCC buckets. This inspection was completed on November 10, 2012, and no deficiencies were identified.

V. ASSESSMENT OF SAFETY CONSEQUENCES

The function of the SGT System is to ensure that radioactive materials that leak from the primary containment into the secondary containment following a Design Basis Accident are filtered and adsorbed prior to exhausting to the environment. The SGT System consists of three redundant 50 percent capacity subsystems, each with its own dampers [DMP], charcoal filter [FLT] train, and controls. The SGT subsystems share common supply and exhaust ductwork [DUCT]. The function of the relative humidity heaters of the SGT trains is to protect the charcoal adsorber from moisture, which reduces the effectiveness of the charcoal adsorber. However, the BFN radiological dose analyses do not take credit for the SGT charcoal adsorbers. As a result, while SGT Train C was determined to be inoperable from September 12, 2011, to August 3, 2011, the ability of SGT Train C to perform its radioactive release control function as assumed in the BFN radiological dose analyses was maintained during this time period.

Therefore, the TVA concludes that the health and safety of the public were not affected by this event.

VI. CORRECTIVE ACTIONS - The corrective actions are being managed by TVA's corrective action program.

A. Immediate Corrective Actions

A spare retaining device was installed in the 2A MCC breaker bucket to replace the missing device.

B. <u>Corrective Actions to Prevent Recurrence</u>

Revised sections of EPI-0-000-MCC001 and ECI-0-000-BKR008 pertaining to ITE Series 5600 MCCs to correct identified deficiencies.

VII. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

A. <u>Failed Components</u>

There were no failed components.

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NARRATIVE	NARRATIVE B Brovious Similar Events											
В.	Previous Similar Events											
	A search of LERs for BFN, Units 1, 2, and 3, for approximately the past five years identified LER 50-259/2009-003, A Train Standby Gas Treatment System Inoperable Longer Than Allowed By The Technical Specifications. The corrective actions to prevent recurrence for LER 50-259/2009-003 include the following.											
	 Revision of plant procedures to include additional actions when a relative humidity heater alarm is received and to include verification of relative humidity heater capacity using an ammeter and volt meter. Performance of focused group meetings to reiterate the need to issue PERs when issues with TS equipment arise. Identification and replacement of other under current relays of the same vintage as the failed relative humidity heater relay. Establishment of preventive maintenance to perform thermography of SGT System relative humidity heater under current relays. 											
	Previous corrective actions failed to prevent the current condition because the condition causing LER 50-259/2009-003 was due to a relay failure and the current condition is due to inadequate engagement of the breaker stab to the C phase of the electrical supply bus.											
	A search on similar conditions approximately the past five ye and 220860.	of PERs for ears identified	BFN, Ur I PERs 6	nits 1, 2, and 2609, 15531	3, for 7, 174416	, 174597,						
С.	Additional Information											
	The corrective action docume	ents for this re	port are	PERs 59020)8 and 604	350.						
D.	Safety System Functional F	ailure Consi	deration	1:								
	In accordance with NEI 99-02 failure.	, this issue is	not con	sidered a saf	fety systen	n functional						
E.	Scram With Complications	Considerati	on:									
	This condition did not include	a reactor scr	am.									
VIII. CC	MMITMENTS											
The	There are no commitments.											