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September 3, 1993
ML-93-034

Docket No. 70-1100
License No. SNM-1067

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

Subject: **Report Pursuant to 10 CFR 70.50: Windsor Criticality Alarm Loss of Power**

Dear Sirs:

On August 4, 1993, the criticality alarm system at our Windsor facility became briefly inoperative. This event was reported within 24 hours to the Nuclear Regulatory Commission Operations Center on August 5, 1993.

Enclosure I provides a 30-day report as required by 10 CFR 70.50(c)(2). If I can be of further assistance, please feel free to contact me at (203) 285-5002.

Very truly yours,

COMBUSTION ENGINEERING, INC.

John F. Conant

John F. Conant
Manager
Nuclear Material Licensing

Enclosure: As Stated
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Enclosure I to
ML-93-034

COMBUSTION ENGINEERING, INC.

Windsor Nuclear Fuel Fabrication Facility
License No. SNM-1067
Docket No. 70-1100

30-Day Report Pursuant to 10 CFR 70.50:
Criticality Alarm Loss of Power

September 1993

30-Day Report Pursuant to 10 CFR 70.50:
Criticality Alarm Loss of Power

The following provides the information required by 10 CFR 70.50 concerning the subject event (paragraph numbering is consistent with 10 CFR 70.50(c)(2)):

(i) Description of the event

At about 12:45 P.M. EDT on August 4, 1993, at the Windsor Nuclear Fuel Fabrication Facility, it was discovered that the criticality alarm system was inoperative. The Facility was in a summer shutdown status, but some limited work with licensed material was in progress; this work was immediately stopped upon discovery of the inoperative alarm. Work was in progress for less than five minutes while the alarm system was inoperative.

The cause of the loss of power was a tripped circuit breaker due to an inadvertent circuit overload. The load was removed, circuits were checked to prevent recurrence, and the system was activated with no further difficulty.

No equipment failed or malfunctioned during this event (manufacturer and model number information is therefore not applicable).

(ii) Location of the event

The event occurred at the Windsor Nuclear Fuel Fabrication Facility located at 1000 Prospect Hill Road in Windsor, CT.

(iii) Licensed materials involved

The licensed material initially being handled at the start of the event was uranium oxide fuel pellets enriched to less than 5 wt% in the U^{235} isotope. Although licensed material was being handled in the facility, no licensed material was actually involved in the event.

(iv) Date and time of the event

Date: August 4, 1993
Time: Approximately 12:45 P.M. EDT

(v) Corrective actions

All work involving special nuclear material was halted when the loss of power to the criticality alarm system was discovered. The circuit load which caused the breaker to trip was removed. In order to prevent recurrence, the circuits were walked down and checked by electricians for potential future overload conditions.

(vi) Exposure of individuals

This event did not lead to any exposure of individuals to radiation or to radioactive materials.