

**J35. Nine Mile Point 2: BWR-5 Mk2**

U.S.A.

**Decontamination of the Drywell**

**Description:** Prior to commencing RFO-1 at NMP2, plans were made to perform an initial decon of the drywell upon shutdown. Intentions were to decon all areas of the drywell necessary to reduce contamination levels below that requiring respiratory protection. This practice is continued for subsequent outages. A post-job meeting was held to identify and discuss problems, concerns and good practices employed during the course of this job. All departments involved with the performance of this job were represented at the meeting.

**Comments:** On 9/5/90 Unit 2 was shut down. Initial drywell survey results were completed on 9/6/90. Based on these survey results, a Decon Action Plan was written and two pre-job planning meetings were held with the decon crew.

**Good ALARA Practices:**

- Development of a pre-job action plan and pre-job briefs were useful in ensuring all personnel involved were aware of their responsibilities and requirements prior to commencing decon.
- WCS\*MOV101 (hot valve) was wrapped in plastic to avoid the spread of contamination. This action was prudent because no work was scheduled on the valve.

**Identified Problems:**

- Two attempts were made to decon the 240' elevation of the drywell. Contamination levels were not significantly reduced on either attempt. Survey results indicate that contamination was being spread around not being removed.
- Interferences impeded directing water into floor drains.
- Movement around the 240' elevation is very difficult. Most of the time workers must crawl on hands and knees to move through the area. Several workers complained of sore and blistered knees upon completion of the 240' decon.

**Recommendations:**

- Investigate other methods of decontamination for future 240' decons. These should include: wet vacuum reusable mops, and various decon solutions.
- Obtain knee pads and make them available to all workers entering the 240' elevation.

**Conclusion:** Future large-scale decon efforts on the 240' elevation should not be performed unless a more effective decon method is found.

**1992 Update:** Previous recommendations have been included and found to be successful during RFO-2. Work for RFO-3 is being planned.

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