

September 14, 2001

U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Attn: Document Control Desk
Mail Stop P1-137
Washington, DC 20555-0001

ULNRC-04527

Gentlemen:



**DOCKET NUMBER 50-483
CALLAWAY PLANT UNIT 1
UNION ELECTRIC CO.
FACILITY OPERATING LICENSE NPF-30
SPECIAL REPORT 2001-004
60 Meter Wind Speed Transmitter Damaged**

This Special Report is submitted in accordance with Final Safety Analysis Report (FSAR) Technical Specification (T/S) 16.3.3.3 which states:

“With one or more required meteorological monitoring channels inoperable for more than 7 days, prepare and submit a Special Report to the Commission within the next 10 days outlining the cause of the malfunction and the plans for restoring the channel(s) to OPERABLE status.”

This Special Report documents the failure of the 60 Meter Wind Speed Transmitter and the actions taken to return the aforementioned transmitter to OPERABLE status.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Warren A. Witt".

Warren A. Witt
Manager, Callaway Plant

WAW/EWH/slk

Enclosure

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Description of Event

At 1005 on September 2, 2001, the 60 meter wind speed sensor on the Primary Meteorological Tower was declared Inoperable based on a report provided by a nonlicensed operator (NLO). During a daily check of the Primary Meteorological Tower, the NLO observed that the anemometer appeared to be missing one or more cups. The Control Room entered the Final Safety Analysis Report (FSAR) Technical Specification (T/S)16.3.3.3 Action statement, which required the sensor to be returned to service within 7 days, or submit a Special Report within the next 10 days. A work-authorizing document was initiated to replace the wind speed sensor.

Root Cause

The cause of the 60 meter wind speed sensor Inoperability was the loss of one out of three cups mounted on the anemometer. This wind speed sensor is a Climatronics Corporation Model 100075 anemometer with a Model 102104 cup set. Instrumentation and Controls technicians did not find any evidence that the cup was broken off by anything other than natural causes. There were no adverse weather conditions occurring at the apparent time of the loss, such as severe thunderstorms or hail. In addition, the 10 meter and 90 meter wind speed sensors remained operable during this time frame, reinforcing the conclusion that the failure was an isolated occurrence. The anemometer and cup set had been in operation on the tower since March 14, 2001, and had last been calibrated by Climatronics Corporation on December 11, 2000.

Corrective Actions

A decision was made to perform the biannual loop calibration surveillance, previously scheduled for October 8, 2001. This loop calibration surveillance replaces the sensor and verifies Operability. It was completed satisfactorily at 1017, September 5, 2001.

The loop calibration surveillance was sufficient to repair the wind speed sensor and return it to service. The 60 meter wind speed sensor is currently Operable.

This event is considered an isolated occurrence, since no definitive cause for the failure was identified.

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Basis for Reportability

The loop calibration surveillance that was completed satisfactorily at 1017, September 5, 2001, would have satisfied the initial 7 day time limit window. Initial reviews of system data revealed data that would require a revision to the original time and date when the wind speed sensor was declared Inoperable, but the surveillance was still completed within the 7 day window. However, on the morning of September 6, 2001, the System Engineer discovered a error in the data timeline and conducted an additional review of the historical trend data for the 10 meter, 60 meter, and 90 meter wind speed sensors and determined that the sensor had actually become Inoperable at 0453, August 29, 2001. The data indicates that at about that time, the sensor began acting erratically at lower wind speeds. The System Engineer determined that the 60 meter wind speed sensor was therefore Inoperable from 0453, August 29, 2001 until 1017, September 5, 2001. This exceeded the 7 days allowed by the FSAR T/S 16.3.3.3 Action statement for repairs completion by 5 hours 24 minutes. Therefore, a Special Report is required to be submitted to the Nuclear Regulatory Commission within 10 days of September 5, 2001.

If you have any questions or need additional information, contact Mark Reidmeyer, Regional Regulatory Affairs Supervisor at (573) 676-4306.

Sincerely,



Warren A. Witt
Manager, Callaway Plant

WAW/EWH/slk