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FACIL: 50-287 OCONEE #3, DUKE POWER CO.

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RECIP. NAME RECIPIENT AFFILIATION

SUBJECT: LER#78-014/03L-0 on 781107: Control Rods 3 & 8 of Group 6
dropped at 0405 & 0413 respectively due to Faulty normal pwr
supply fuse. Faulty fuse has been replaced.

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DUKE POWER COMPANY

Oconee Unit 3

Report Number: RO-287/78-14

Report Date: December 7, 1978

Occurrence Date: October 7, 1978

Facility: Oconee Unit 3, Seneca, South Carolina

Identification of Occurrence: Dropped Control Rods

Conditions Prior to Occurrence: 100% Full Power

Description of Occurrence:

At 0405 on November 7, 1978, Rod 3 Group 6 dropped into the core, causing a unit runback to 55% Full Power. At 0413 Rod 8 Group 6 also dropped but relatched. Pursuant to Technical Specification 3.5.2.2 and established procedures, unit shutdown was initiated. An attempt was made to realign Rod 8; however, feedwater transients caused a turbine trip. A reactor trip followed at 0423. The operators stabilized the plant in a hot shutdown condition, and appropriate actions were taken to restore the systems to normal operating status. The reactor was re-started at approximately 1130, and the generator was on-line at 1919.

Apparent Cause of Occurrence:

A control power fuse on the CRDM's (Control Rod Drive Mechanisms) normal power supply was discolored and had apparently caused voltage fluctuations which caused the rods to drop. The backup power supply was temporarily out-of-service for testing conducted as part of Unit 2's refueling outage. A similar incident occurred in April, 1976, and was described in Reportable Occurrence report RO-287/76-4, submitted May 6, 1976.

Analysis of Occurrence:

The Integrated Control System properly handled all reactor power runback operations, and the Reactor Protection System performed as required. The operators handled all manual operations in a safe and orderly manner. This occurrence did not adversely affect public health and safety.

Corrective Action:

The immediate corrective action was the initiation of a unit shutdown because of the misaligned control rods. The defective fuse, which apparently caused the rod drops, has been replaced.

7812130172

LICENSEE EVENT REPORT

EXHIBIT A

CONTROL BLOCK: (PLEASE PRINT OR TYPE ALL REQUIRED INFORMATION)

LICENSEE CODE: SCNEE3; LICENSE NUMBER: 200-000000-000; LICENSE TYPE: 41111; CAT 58: 4

REPORT SOURCE: L; DOCKET NUMBER: 50000287; EVENT DATE: 120778; REPORT DATE: 110778

EVENT DESCRIPTION AND PROBABLE CONSEQUENCES

Control Rods 3 and 8 of Group 6 dropped at 0405 and 0413 respectively on November 7, 1978. The ICS ran back power to 55% after Rod 3 dropped and the reactor tripped following a feedwater transient which tripped the turbine during the manual shutdown following the second rod drop. The ICS, RPS and operators shut down the reactor in an orderly and safe manner. Therefore this event did not adversely affect the public health and safety.

SYSTEM CODE: RB; CAUSE CODE: E; CAUSE SUBCODE: A; COMPONENT CODE: CKTBRIK; COMP. SUBCODE: A; VALVE SUBCODE: Z; LER/RO REPORT NUMBER: 78; SEQUENTIAL REPORT NO.: 014; OCCURRENCE CODE: 03; REPORT TYPE: L; REVISION NO.: 0; ACTION TAKEN: AZ; EFFECT ON PLANT: A; SHUTDOWN METHOD: C; HOURS: 0015; ATTACHMENT SUBMITTED: Y; NPRO-A FORM SUB.: Y; PRIME COMP. SUPPLIER: N; COMPONENT MANUFACTURER: X999

CAUSE DESCRIPTION AND CORRECTIVE ACTIONS

The rods evidently dropped due to problems in a normal power supply fuse. The backup power source was out-of-service for testing on Unit 2. The faulty fuse has been replaced.

FACILITY STATUS: E; % POWER: 100; OTHER STATUS: NA; METHOD OF DISCOVERY: A; DISCOVERY DESCRIPTION: Operator Observation

ACTIVITY CONTENT RELEASED OF RELEASE: Z; AMOUNT OF ACTIVITY: NA; LOCATION OF RELEASE: NA

PERSONNEL EXPOSURES NUMBER: 000; TYPE: Z; DESCRIPTION: NA

PERSONNEL INJURIES NUMBER: 000; DESCRIPTION: NA

LOSS OF OR DAMAGE TO FACILITY TYPE: Z; DESCRIPTION: NA

PUBLICITY ISSUED DESCRIPTION: N

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