

4/13/78

REGULATORY INFORMATION DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM (RIDS)
DISTRIBUTION FOR INCOMING MATERIAL 50-287

REC: OREILLY J P
NRC

ORG: PARKER W O
DUKE PWR

DOCDATE: 04/04/78
DATE RCVD: 04/12/78

DOCTYPE: LETTER NOTARIZED: NO COPIES RECEIVED
SUBJECT: LTR 1 ENCL 1
FORWARDING LICENSEE EVENT REPT (RD 50-287/78-08) ON 03/05/78 CONCERNING
DURING NORMAL OPERATION, IT WAS OBSERVED THAT PWR RANGE DETECTOR (NI-5) WAS
SPIKING... W/ATT.

PLANT NAME: OCONEE - UNIT 3

REVIEWER INITIAL: XJM
DISTRIBUTOR INITIAL: *we*

***** DISTRIBUTION OF THIS MATERIAL IS AS FOLLOWS *****

NOTES:

- 1. M. CUNNINGHAM - ALL AMENDMENTS TO FSAR AND CHANGES TO TECH SPECS

INCIDENT REPORTS
(DISTRIBUTION CODE A002)

FOR ACTION: BR CHIEF ~~REG~~ **W/4 ENCL

INTERNAL: REG FILE**W/ENCL
~~I & E**W/3 ENCL~~
SCHROEDER/IPPOLITO**W/ENCL
NOVAK/CHECK**W/ENCL
KNIGHT**W/ENCL
HANAUER**W/ENCL
EISENHUT**W/ENCL
SHAO**W/ENCL
KREGER/J. COLLINS**W/ENCL
K SEYFRIT/IE**W/ENCL

NRC PDR**W/ENCL
MIPC**W/3 ENCL
HOUSTON**W/ENCL
EEB**W/ENCL
BUTLER**W/ENCL
TEDESCO**W/ENCL
BAER**W/ENCL
VOLLMER/BUNCH**W/ENCL
ROSA**W/ENCL

EXTERNAL: LPDR'S
WALHALLA, SC**W/ENCL
TIC**W/ENCL
NSIC**W/ENCL
ACRS CAT B**W/16 ENCL

DISTRIBUTION: LTR 45 ENCL 45
SIZE: 1P+1P+1P

CONTROL NBR: 781030045

***** THE END *****

AOY

DUKE POWER COMPANY

POWER BUILDING

422 SOUTH CHURCH STREET, CHARLOTTE, N. C. 28242

WILLIAM O. PARKER, JR.
VICE PRESIDENT
STEAM PRODUCTION

April 4, 1978

US NRC
DISTRIBUTION SERVICES
BRANCH

TELEPHONE: AREA 704
373-4000

1978 APR 12 PM 1 08

RECEIVED DISTRIBUTION
SERVICES UNIT

REGULATORY DOCKET FILE COPY

Mr. James P. O'Reilly, Director
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Suite 1217
230 Peachtree Street, Northwest
Atlanta, Georgia 30303

RE: Oconee Unit 3
Docket No. 50-287

Dear Mr. O'Reilly:

Pursuant to Sections 6.2 and 6.6.2 of the Oconee Nuclear Station Technical Specifications, please find attached Reportable Occurrence Report RO-287/78-8.

Very truly yours,

William O. Parker, Jr.

William O. Parker, Jr. *By [Signature]*

KRW/pt

Attachment

cc: Director, Office of Management Information
and Program Control

781030045

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1/1*

DUKE POWER COMPANY
OCONEE UNIT 3

Report Number: RO-287/78-8

Report Date: April 4, 1978

Occurrence Date: March 5, 1978

Facility: Oconee Unit 3, Seneca, South Carolina

Identification of Occurrence: Reactor Protection System (RPS) Channel A
Bypassed Due to Nuclear Instrumentation (NI)-5
Spiking

Conditions Prior to Occurrence: 100 percent Full Power

Description of Occurrence:

On March 5, 1978, at 2039, Reactor Protection System (RPS) Channel A was placed in Manual Bypass. A spiking problem in Nuclear Instrumentation (NI) Power Range Detector, NI-5, necessitated the bypass of the channel. An investigation of the spiking was initiated at 2200 and continued until 1000 on March 6, 1978 when the spiking had ceased. No further spiking has recurred and RPS Channel A has been left in the manual bypass mode.

Apparent Cause of Occurrence:

At this time the cause of the spiking has not been determined. The RPS Cabinet itself has been eliminated as a possibility but, the cause could lie anywhere from the cabinet to the detector itself. Further investigation will continue at either the next occurrence of the spiking or during the next refueling outage.

Analysis of Occurrence:

The Reactor Protection System has four channels and normally trips on a two-out-of-four logic. With one RPS channel bypassed the remaining trip logic is two-out-of-three which is the minimum required by Technical Specifications (T.S. 3.5.1). There is, therefore, sufficient redundancy assured with one channel bypassed. Thus, the health and safety of the public are not endangered by continued operation in this mode.

Corrective Action:

No other corrective action can be taken until the cause is determined. The bypassing of the RPS channel prevents spurious RPS channel trips due to spiking in the NI channel.

