C 09/01/78

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

REC: OREILLY J P
NRC

ORG: PARKER W O
DUKE PWR

DOCDATE: 08/30/78
DATE RCVD: 09/01/78

DOCTYPE: LETTER NOTARIZED: NO
SUBJECT:

COPIES RECEIVED
LTR 1 ENCL 1

FORWARDING LICENSEE EVENT REPT (RO 50-287/78-011) ON 07/27/78 CONCERNING DURING PERFORMANCE OF IP/0/A/3000/3 (I&C BATTERY CAPABILITY TEST) ON BATTERY 3CB, SMOKE WAS DETECTED COMING FROM ONE OF THE TERMINALS. . . W/ATT.

PLANT NAME: OCONEE - UNIT 3

REVIEWER INITIAL: XJM
DISTRIBUTOR INITIAL: DL

********** 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 ORB#4 BC**W/4 ENCL

INTERNAL:
REG FILE**W/ENCL
I & E**W/2 ENCL
I & C SYSTEMS BR**W/ENCL
NOVAK/CHECK**W/ENCL
AD FOR ENG**W/ENCL
HANAUER**W/ENCL
AD FOR SYS & PROJ**W/ENCL
ENGINEERING BR**W/ENCL
KREGER/J. COLLINS**W/ENCL
K SEYFRIT/IE**W/ENCL
NRC PDR**W/ENCL
MIPC**W/3 ENCL
EMERGENCY PLAN BR**W/ENCL
EEB**W/ENCL
PLANT SYSTEMS BR**W/ENCL
AD FOR PLANT SYSTEMS**W/ENCL
REACTOR SAFETY BR**W/ENCL
VOLLMER/BUNCH**W/ENCL
POWER SYS BR**W/ENCL

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

A04

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

CONTROL NBR: 782480008

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

DUKE POWER COMPANY
POWER BUILDING
422 SOUTH CHURCH STREET, CHARLOTTE, N.C.

WILLIAM O. PARKER, JR.
VICE PRESIDENT
STEAM PRODUCTION

August 30, 1978

TELEPHONE: AREA 704
373-4083

Mr. James P. O'Reilly, Director
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Region II
101 Marietta Street, Suite 3100
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-287/78-11.

Very truly yours,

William O. Parker Jr. by WAH

William O. Parker, Jr.

KRW:scs
Attachment

cc: Director, Office of Management Information
and Program Control

A002
S/1

DUKE POWER COMPANY
OCONEE UNIT 3

Report Number: RO-287/78-11

Report Date: August 30, 1978

Occurrence Date: July 27, 1978

Facility: Oconee Unit 3, Seneca, South Carolina

Identification of Occurrence: Instrumentation and Control Battery Inoperable

Conditions Prior to Occurrence: 100% Full Power

Description of Occurrence:

At approximately 1440 on July 27, 1978, IP/O/A/3000/3, I & C Battery Capability Test on Battery 3CB was started. The test requires the battery to maintain 600 amps for 1 hour. Approximately 20 minutes into the test period, a terminal on the battery started smoking and began to melt. The battery discharge unit tripped and personnel determined that the battery would be unable to maintain the load for the required test period and ordered the cell replaced to prevent further damage. During the cell replacement, Battery 3CB was out-of-service which constituted operation in a degraded mode, which is authorized for 48 hours by Oconee Technical Specification 3.7.2. The battery was returned to service by 0900 on July 28, 1978.

Apparent Cause of Occurrence:

The exact cause for the terminal failure has not been determined. It is possible that either the terminal was defective or that the connections were not secure.

Analysis of Occurrence:

Battery 3CB is one of the two power sources to the Unit 3 125 VDC distribution centers and panel boards. The redundant source was fully operable. Alternate DC power supplies were also available from the cross-connected Unit 1 I & C batteries. Since adequate alternate sources of power existed throughout the incident there were no adverse effects on public health and safety.

Corrective Actions:

The battery cell with the defective terminal was replaced promptly.

A procedure has been written which will require annual inspection and cleaning of the terminals and connections to prevent future occurrences of this type. Pending the outcome of discussions with the manufacturer; some components may be replaced on the terminal connectors to improve reliability.

NRC FORM 366 (7-77)

U. S. NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

LICENSEE EVENT REPORT

EXHIBIT A

CONTROL BLOCK: (1) (PLEASE PRINT OR TYPE ALL REQUIRED INFORMATION)

01 — LICENSEE CODE: S C N E E 3 (2) — LICENSE NUMBER: 0 0 - 0 0 0 0 0 - 0 0 (3) — LICENSE TYPE: 4 1 1 1 1 (4) — CAT (5)

CON'T 01 — REPORT SOURCE: L (6) — DOCKET NUMBER: 0 5 0 0 0 2 8 7 (7) — EVENT DATE: 0 7 2 7 7 8 (8) — REPORT DATE: 0 8 3 0 7 8 (9)

EVENT DESCRIPTION AND PROBABLE CONSEQUENCES (10)

02 On July 27, 1978, during the performance of IP/0/A/3000/3 (I&C Battery
03 Capability Test) on Battery 3CB, smoke was detected coming from one of the
04 terminals. The cell with the damaged terminal was replaced. The redundant
05 power supply to the 125 VDC distribution centers and panel boards, as well
06 as cross-connected supplies from Unit 1, were available for emergency power,
07 if required. Since no loss of auxiliary power occurred, the incident did not
08 endanger public health and safety.

09 — SYSTEM CODE: E C (11) — CAUSE CODE: E (12) — CAUSE SUBCODE: X (13) — COMPONENT CODE: B A T T R Y (14) — COMP. SUBCODE: Z (15) — VALVE SUBCODE: Z (16)

(17) LER/RO REPORT NUMBER — EVENT YEAR: 7 8 — — — SEQUENTIAL REPORT NO.: 0 1 1 — / — OCCURRENCE CODE: 0 3 — REPORT TYPE: L — — — REVISION NO.: 0

ACTION TAKEN: A (18) — FUTURE ACTION: G (19) — EFFECT ON PLANT: Z (20) — SHUTDOWN METHOD: Z (21) — HOURS (22): 0 0 0 0 — ATTACHMENT SUBMITTED: Y (23) — NPRD-4 FORM SUB.: Y (24) — PRIME COMP. SUPPLIER: L (25) — COMPONENT MANUFACTURER: E 3 5 5 (26)

CAUSE DESCRIPTION AND CORRECTIVE ACTIONS (27)

10 The exact cause for the terminal failure is not known. Either the terminal
11 was defective or the connections were insufficiently secure. The cell with
12 the defective terminal was replaced and a procedure for annual cleaning and
13 inspection of the terminals has been written.
14

15 — FACILITY STATUS: E (28) — % POWER: 1 0 0 (29) — OTHER STATUS (30): NA — METHOD OF DISCOVERY: B (31) — DISCOVERY DESCRIPTION (32): visually observed smoke

16 — ACTIVITY RELEASED: Z (33) — CONTENT OF RELEASE: Z (34) — AMOUNT OF ACTIVITY (35): NA — LOCATION OF RELEASE (36): NA

17 — PERSONNEL EXPOSURES — NUMBER: 0 0 0 (37) — TYPE: Z (38) — DESCRIPTION (39): NA

18 — PERSONNEL INJURIES — NUMBER: 0 0 0 (40) — DESCRIPTION (41): NA

19 — LOSS OF OR DAMAGE TO FACILITY (43) — TYPE: Z (42) — DESCRIPTION: NA

20 — PUBLICITY — ISSUED: N (44) — DESCRIPTION (45): NA — NRC USE ONLY

NAME OF PREPARER: K. R. Wilson

PHONE: (704) 373-8197