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REGION 2, ATLANTA, OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR

SUBJECT: LER 79-009/03L-0 ON 790404:DURING PERFORMANCE TEST,REACTOR BLDG SPRAY PUMP LEAKED OIL FROM CASING & WAS DECLARED INOPERABLE.CAUSED BY INCORRECTLY INSTALLED BEARING COVER. PUMP REPAIRED & RETURNED TO SVC.

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DUKE POWER COMPANY
OCONEE UNIT 3

Report Number: RO-287/79-9

Report Date: May 4, 1979

Occurrence Date: April 4, 1979

Facility: Oconee Unit 3, Seneca, South Carolina

Identification of Occurrence: Reactor Building Spray Pump Inoperable

Conditions Prior to Occurrence: 99% Full Power

Description of Occurrence:

At 1353 on April 4, 1979, Reactor Building (RB) spray pump 3B was declared inoperable when oil leakage from the pump casing was observed during the conduct of a performance test. At 1250 on April 4 the pump had been removed from service in order to perform the test. The test was begun at 1310, but the oil leakage was observed and the pump was secured at 1336. The oil level was restored and the pump was restarted, but it was again secured at 1353 when the leakage continued, and the pump was declared inoperable. Oconee Nuclear Station Technical Specification 3.3.6(f) permits one RB spray pump to be removed from service for up to 72 hours provided all three RB cooling units are operable. Thus, although the inoperability of RB spray pump 3B was of no significance with respect to safety, it did constitute operation of the unit in a degraded mode permitted by a limiting condition for operation, and must therefore be reported pursuant to Technical Specification 6.6.2.1.b(2). The pump was partially disassembled in order to examine the oil seal mechanism, and it was discovered that the pump bearing cover had been installed incorrectly, resulting in an improper oil seal. The pump was reassembled correctly, and the performance test was successfully completed at 1655. At 1830 the pump was declared operable and returned to service.

Apparent Cause of Occurrence:

Investigation of the oil leakage revealed that the spray pump bearing cover had been incorrectly installed, resulting in an improper oil seal. A review of the maintenance procedure disclosed that it did not include a description of the proper method for installing the bearing cover.

Analysis of Occurrence:

It has been shown that in the unlikely event of a design basis loss-of-coolant accident, RB integrity will be maintained provided that one RB spray train and two cooling units are operable. Therefore, the Technical Specifications permit one spray pump to be out of service for up to 72 hours provided the other pump and all three cooling units are operable. RB spray pump 3A had been tested and found operable immediately prior to initiating the test of spray pump 3B. In addition, all three RB cooling units were operable. Since spray pump 3B was

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declared operable less than 6 hours after it was removed from service for testing, the requirements of Technical Specification 3.3.6(f) were satisfied. Thus, safe operation of the unit was not affected, and the health and safety of the public were not endangered.

Corrective Action:

When the oil leakage was first observed, spray pump 3B was secured and oil was added. However, the leakage continued when the pump was restarted, so the pump was partially disassembled. The pump bearing cover was discovered to have been installed incorrectly. The pump was reassembled, and it operated properly. The maintenance procedure used to assemble the pump will be revised by May 15, 1979 to include a description of the proper method for installing the bearing cover.

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)

0 1 | S C N E E 3 (2) | 0 0 - 0 0 0 0 0 - 0 0 (3) | 4 1 1 1 1 (4) | | (5)
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DOCKET NUMBER | EVENT DATE | REPORT DATE

EVENT DESCRIPTION AND PROBABLE CONSEQUENCES (10)

0 2 On April 4, 1979 Reactor Building spray pump 3B was declared inoperable
0 3 when oil leakage from the pump casing was discovered during a performance test.
0 4 The pump was repaired and returned to service less than 6 hours after the test
0 5 was begun. In addition, the other spray pump and all three RB cooling units
0 6 were operable. Thus, this incident was of no significance with respect to
0 7 safe operation of the unit, and the health and safety of the public were not
0 8 affected.

	SYSTEM CODE	CAUSE CODE	CAUSE SUBCODE	COMPONENT CODE	COMP. SUBCODE	VALVE SUBCODE
0 9	S C (11)	D (12)	Z (13)	P U M P X X (14)	B (15)	Z (16)

(17) LER/RO REPORT NUMBER	EVENT YEAR		SEQUENTIAL REPORT NO.		OCCURRENCE CODE	REPORT TYPE		REVISION NO.
	7 9	—	0 0 9	/	0 3	L	—	0

ACTION TAKEN	FUTURE ACTION	EFFECT ON PLANT	SHUTDOWN METHOD	HOURS (22)	ATTACHMENT SUBMITTED	NPRD-4 FORM SUB.	PRIME COMP. SUPPLIER	COMPONENT MANUFACTURER
B (18)	G (19)	Z (20)	Z (21)	0 0 0 0	Y (23)	Y (24)	L (25)	I 0 7 5 (26)

CAUSE DESCRIPTION AND CORRECTIVE ACTIONS (27)

1 0 Partial disassembly of the pump revealed that the pump bearing cover had been
1 1 incorrectly installed. The pump was reassembled correctly, and the performance
1 2 test was successfully completed. The maintenance procedure used to assemble
1 3 the pump will be revised by May 15, 1979 to include instructions for correctly
1 4 installing the bearing cover.

1 5 | FACILITY STATUS E (28) | % POWER 0 9 9 (29) | OTHER STATUS (30) NA | METHOD OF DISCOVERY B (31) | DISCOVERY DESCRIPTION (32) Performance Test

1 6 | ACTIVITY RELEASED Z (33) | CONTENT OF RELEASE Z (34) | AMOUNT OF ACTIVITY (35) NA | LOCATION OF RELEASE (36) NA

PERSONNEL EXPOSURES

1 7 | NUMBER 0 0 0 (37) | TYPE Z (38) | DESCRIPTION (39) NA

PERSONNEL INJURIES

1 8 | NUMBER 0 0 0 (40) | DESCRIPTION (41) NA

LOSS OF OR DAMAGE TO FACILITY (43)

1 9 | TYPE Z (42) | DESCRIPTION NA

PUBLICITY

2 0 | ISSUED N (44) | DESCRIPTION (45) NA | NRC USE ONLY

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