

DUKE POWER COMPANY  
POWER BUILDING  
422 SOUTH CHURCH STREET, CHARLOTTE, N. C. 28212

WILLIAM O. PARKER, JR.  
VICE PRESIDENT  
STEAM PRODUCTION

February 23, 1979

TELEPHONE: AREA 704  
373-4083

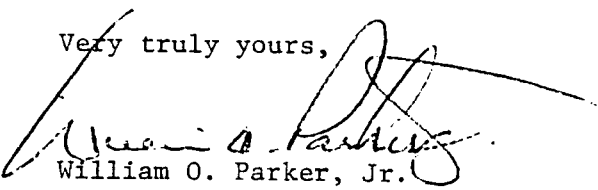
Mr. James P. O'Reilly, Director  
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Region II  
101 Marietta Street, Suite 3100  
Atlanta, Georgia 30303

Re: Oconee Unit 1  
Docket No. 50-269

Dear Mr. O'Reilly:

Pursuant to Sections 6.2 and 6.6.2.1.b(2) of the Oconee Nuclear Station Technical Specifications, please find attached Reportable Occurrence Report RO-269/79-6.

Very truly yours,

  
William O. Parker, Jr.

SRL:scs  
Attachment

cc: Director, Office of Management Information  
and Program Control

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DUKE POWER COMPANY  
OCONEE UNIT 1

Report Number: RO-269/79-6

Report Date: February 23, 1979

Occurrence Date: January 24, 1979

Facility: Oconee Unit 1, Seneca, South Carolina

Identification of Occurrence: Radiation Monitors 1RIA 47, 48 and 49 Inoperable

Conditions Prior to Occurrence: 100% Full Power

Description of Occurrence:

At 2200 on January 24, 1979, during a routine tour of the Reactor Building (RB) Purge Room, operations personnel noted abnormal sounds emanating from one of the two sample pumps in the cabinet containing 1RIA 47, 48 and 49, the RB particulate, iodine, and gaseous activity monitors, respectively. Steps were initiated to have the pump repaired. At 0100 on January 25, flow fault alarms for the three monitors were received. The monitors were declared inoperable and removed from service. The sample pump for RIA 47 was found to have seized resulting in a loss of flow to that monitor. Sample flow for RIA 48 and 49 is provided by a separate pump, but both pumps are driven by the same motor. Therefore, when the RIA 47 pump seized, the motor tripped, causing a loss of flow to all three monitors. The RIA 47 sample pump was replaced, and the three monitors were returned to service by 1400 on January 25, 1979.

Apparent Cause of Occurrence:

Flow to the three monitors was lost when the RIA 47 sample pump seized. Since the pump is of the sealed-bearing type, the exact cause of its failure could not be determined.

Analysis of Occurrence:

These monitors provide one means of detecting reactor coolant system leakage. Technical Specification 3.1.6.8 allows the monitors to be out of service for up to 48 hours, providing two other means of leak detection are available. During the time the monitors were out of service, RB normal sump level and letdown storage tank level were both operable. Therefore, safe operation of the unit was not affected, and the health and safety of the public were not endangered.

Corrective Action:

The inoperable sample pump was replaced, and the system returned to normal operation.

