

REGULATORY INFORMATION DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM (RIDS)

ACCESSION NBR: 8012300498 DOC. DATE: 80/12/23 NOTARIZED: NO  
 FACIL: 50-269 Oconee Nuclear Station, Unit 1, Duke Power Co.  
 AUTH. NAME: JONES, J. L. AUTHOR AFFILIATION: Duke Power Co.  
 RECIP. NAME: RECIPIENT AFFILIATION: Region 2, Atlanta, Office of the Director

DOCKET #  
05000269

SUBJECT: LER 80-034/03L-0: on 801124, level indication was lost to station EWST. Caused by water collecting in air compressor. HPSW pumps placed in manual mode, normal instrumentation checked & air receiver drained.

DISTRIBUTION CODE: A0025 COPIES RECEIVED: LTR 1 ENCL 1 SIZE: 3+1  
 TITLE: Incident Reports

NOTES: M. Cunningham: all amends to FSAR & changes to Tech Specs. 05000269  
 AEOD, Ornstein: lcc.

ACTION:	RECIPIENT ID CODE/NAME		COPIES		RECIPIENT ID CODE/NAME	COPIES	
			LTR	ENCL		LTR	ENCL
	REID, R.	04	3	3			
INTERNAL:	A/D COMP&STRU06		1	1	A/D ENV TECH 07	1	1
	A/D MATL & QU08		1	1	A/D OP REACT009	1	1
	A/D PLANT SYS10		1	1	A/D RAD PROT 11	1	1
	A/D SFTY ASSE12		1	1	A/D TECHNOLOG13	1	1
	ACC EVAL BR 14		1	1	AEOD	2	2
	ASLBP/J.HARD		1	1	AUX SYS BR 15	1	1
	CHEM ENG BR 16		1	1	CONT SYS BR 17	1	1
	CORE PERF BR 18		1	1	D/DIR, HUM FAC19	1	1
	DIR, DIV OF LIC		1	1	DIR, ENGINEER120	1	1
	DIR, HUM FAC S21		1	1	DIR, SYS INTEG22	1	1
	EFF TR SYS BR23		1	1	EQUIP QUAL BR25	1	1
	GEOSCIENCES 26		1	1	I&C SYS BR 29	1	1
	I&E 05		2	2	JORDAN, E./IE	1	1
	LIC GUID BR 30		1	1	LIC QUAL BR 31	1	1
	MATL ENG BR 32		1	1	MECH ENG BR 33	1	1
	MPA		3	3	NRC PDR 02	1	1
	OP EX EVAL BR34		3	3	OR ASSESS BR 35	1	1
	POWER SYS BR 36		1	1	RAD ASSESS BR39	1	1
	REACT SYS BR 40		1	1	<u>REG FILE</u> 01	1	1
	REL & RISK A 41		1	1	SFTY PRG. EVA42	1	1
	STRUCT ENG BR44		1	1	SYS INTERAC B45	1	1
EXTERNAL:	ACRS	46	16	16	LPDR 03	1	1
	NSIC	05	1	1	TERA: DOUG MAY	1	1

DEC 31 1980

TOTAL NUMBER OF COPIES REQUIRED: LTR

71 ENCL 71  
70 70

L.J.

DUKE POWER COMPANY  
OCONEE NUCLEAR STATION

Report Number: RO-269/80-34

Report Date: December 23, 1980

Occurrence Date: November 24, 1980

Facility: Oconee Nuclear Station, Seneca, South Carolina

Identification of Occurrence: Failure of Level Indication for the  
Elevated Water Storage Tank

Conditions Prior to Occurrence: Oconee 1 - 100%  
Oconee 2 - Cold Shutdown  
Oconee 3 - 99%

Description of Occurrence:

At 2257 hours on November 24, 1980, the level indication was lost on the Station Elevated Water Storage Tank (EWST). The indication was restored at approximately 0430 on November 25, 1980. An inspection of the instrumentation revealed that the instrumentation failed due to the collection of water in the receiver of the air compressor located on the microwave tower which provides instrument air for the EWST instrumentation. This constitutes operation in a degraded mode per Technical Specification 3.17.2.1 and is thus reportable pursuant to Technical Specification 6.6.2.1.b(2).

Apparent Cause of Occurrence:

This incident was caused by water collecting in the air compressor located on the microwave tower which provides instrument air for the EWST instrumentation.

Analysis of Occurrence:

Although the FSAR does not take credit for the EWST, the level instrumentation effects the starting of the HPSW pumps. When the level indication is lost for the EWST the HPSW pumps start because the instrumentation having failed is saying that the EWST is empty. During the time of the inoperability, both normal HPSW pumps and the HPSW Jockey Pump were operable, thus assuring safe operation of the plant but requiring manual start of the pumps if needed. In addition, the level in the EWST was monitored every 2 hours. Thus, this incident was of no significance with respect to safe operation, and the health and safety of the public were not affected.

Corrected Action:

The immediate corrective action was to place the HPSW pumps in manual mode and establish an alternate means of indicating water level in the EWST utilizing the Heise gauge on the Operating Floor of the Turbine Building. Since this gauge is not in the Control Room, the pressure had to be logged every 2 hours verifying the level in the EWST. The normal instrumentation was checked, and the air receiver was drained. A temporary arrangement has been made to check the air receiver

weekly for accumulated water. Administrative controls should be maintained to insure that the liquid is drained from this system. The reasoning behind the current "bubbles" level instrumentation vs direct indication should be determined. A periodic blowdown of this receiver should be set up.

LICENSEE EVENT REPORT

EXHIBIT A

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

[0 1] [S][C][N][E][E] 1 [2] 0 0 - 0 0 0 0 0 - 0 0 [3] 4 1 1 1 1 [4] [ ] [ ] [5]  
7 8 9 10 15 20 25 30 35 37 CAT 58

CONT  
[0 1] REPORT SOURCE [L] [6] 0 5 0 0 0 2 6 9 [7] 1 1 2 4 8 0 [8] 1 2 2 3 8 0 [9]  
7 8 9 10 15 20 25 30 35 37 CAT 58

EVENT DESCRIPTION AND PROBABLE CONSEQUENCES (10)

[0 2] | On November 24, 1980, the level indication was lost to the Station EWST. During  
[0 3] | the time of the inoperability, both normal HPSW pumps and the HPSW Jockey Pump  
[0 4] | were operable, thus assuring safe operation of the plant but requiring manual  
[0 5] | start of the pumps if needed. In addition, the level in the EWST was monitored  
[0 6] | every 2 hours. Thus, this incident was of no significance with respect to safe  
[0 7] | operation and the health and safety of the public were not affected.  
[0 8] |

[0 9] SYSTEM CODE: [W][A] [11] CAUSE CODE: [X] [12] CAUSE SUBCODE: [Z] [13] COMPONENT CODE: [I][N][S][T][R][U] [14] COMP. SUBCODE: [I] [15] VALVE SUBCODE: [Z] [16]  
7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22

[17] LER/RO REPORT NUMBER: [8][0] EVENT YEAR: [8][0] SEQUENTIAL REPORT NO.: [0][3][4] OCCURRENCE CODE: [0][3] REPORT TYPE: [L] REVISION NO.: [0]  
ACTION TAKEN: [X] [18] FUTURE ACTION: [Z] [19] EFFECT ON PLANT: [Z] [20] SHUTDOWN METHOD: [Z] [21] HOURS: [0][0][0][0] ATTACHMENT SUBMITTED: [V] [23] NRC-4 FORM 388: [N] [24] PRIME COMP. SUPPLIER: [L] [25] COMPONENT MANUFACTURER: [X][9][9][9] [26]

CAUSE DESCRIPTION AND CORRECTIVE ACTIONS (27)

[1 0] | This incident was caused by water collecting in the air compressor located on  
[1 1] | the microwave tower which provides instrument air for, the EWST instrumentation.  
[1 2] | The immediate corrective action was to place the HPSW pumps in manual mode and  
[1 3] | establish an alternate means of indicating water level in the EWST. The normal  
[1 4] | instrumentation was checked, and the air receiver was drained.

[1 5] FACILITY STATUS: [E] [28] % POWER: [1][0][0] [29] OTHER STATUS: [NA] [30] METHOD OF DISCOVERY: [A] [31] DISCOVERY DESCRIPTION: [Operator Observation] [32]

[1 6] ACTIVITY CONTENT: [Z] [33] RELEASED OF RELEASE: [Z] [34] AMOUNT OF ACTIVITY: [NA] [35] LOCATION OF RELEASE: [NA] [36]

[1 7] PERSONNEL EXPOSURES NUMBER: [0][0][0] [37] TYPE: [Z] [38] DESCRIPTION: [NA] [39]

[1 8] PERSONNEL INJURIES NUMBER: [0][0][0] [40] DESCRIPTION: [NA] [41]

[1 9] LOSS OF OR DAMAGE TO FACILITY TYPE: [Z] [42] DESCRIPTION: [NA] [43]

[2 0] PUBLICITY ISSUED DESCRIPTION: [N] [44] DESCRIPTION: [NA] [45]

NAME OF PREPARER: J. L. Jones

NRC USE ONLY  
PHONE: (704) 373-8197