

DUKE POWER COMPANY

POWER BUILDING

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

WILLIAM O. PARKER, JR.  
VICE PRESIDENT  
STEAM PRODUCTION

April 27, 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

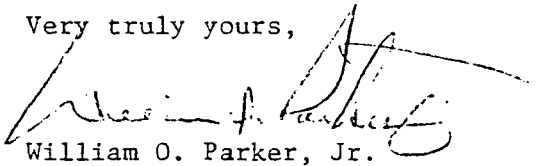
Re: Oconee Nuclear Station  
Docket Nos. 50-269, -270 and -287

Dear Mr. O'Reilly:

Please find attached Reportable Occurrence Report RO-269/79-10. This report is being submitted pursuant to Oconee Nuclear Station Technical Specifications 6.2 and 6.6.2.1.b(2), which concerns operation in a degraded mode permitted by a limiting condition for operation, and describes an incident which is considered to have no significance with respect to its effect on the health and safety of the public.

My letter of April 13, 1979 addressed the delays involved in preparing this report.

Very truly yours,



William O. Parker, Jr.

SRL:scs  
Attachment

cc: Director, Office of Management Information  
and Program Control

REGULATORY DOCKET FILE COPY



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DUKE POWER COMPANY  
OCONEE NUCLEAR STATION

Report Number: RO-269/79-10

Report Date: April 27, 1979

Occurrence Date: March 15 and 25, 1979

Facility: Oconee Nuclear Station, Seneca, South Carolina

Identification of Occurrence: High Pressure Service Water Pump Inoperable

Conditions Prior to Occurrence: Unit 1 100% Full Power  
Unit 2 100% Full Power  
Unit 3 100% Full Power

Description of Occurrence:

At 2245 on March 15, 1979 during a routine inspection of the turbine building basement, the motor cooler for high pressure service water (HPSW) pump B was observed to be leaking water, and the pump was removed from service. Oconee Nuclear Station Technical Specification 3.17.2.1 requires that the pump be restored to service within 7 days, or that a report be submitted within the next 30 days outlining plans and procedures to be implemented to compensate for loss of redundancy in the HPSW system. Therefore, although the removal of the pump from service was of no significance with respect to safe operation of the units, it did constitute operation in a degraded mode. At approximately 1000 on March 17, 1979, the leak was discovered to be coming from the joint connecting the supply line to the motor cooler tubing. The leaking joint was soldered and hydrostatically tested at operating pressure. HPSW pump B was returned to service at 1529 on March 17. The pump was again removed from service at 1015 on March 25, 1979 as a result of similar leakage. The motor cooler was again repaired, and the pump was returned to service at 1904 on the same day.

Apparent Cause of Occurrence:

HPSW pump B was removed from service as a result of water leakage from the pump's motor cooler. The leakage was identified to be coming from the joint between the motor cooler tubing and the supply header. The exact cause of the leak could not be determined.

Analysis of Occurrence:

Two redundant HPSW pumps are provided to supply high pressure water for the fire suppression water system. During the times HPSW pump B was out of service, HPSW pump A was operable and capable of meeting the fire protection safety requirements of the HPSW system. In addition, investigation of the HPSW B motor cooler leakage indicated that it was not of a magnitude which could have affected the integrity of the pump motor. Therefore, these incidents were of no significance with respect to safe operation of the units, and the health and safety of the public were not endangered.

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Corrective Action:

Investigation of the motor cooler leakage revealed that the source was the joint connecting the supply header to the motor cooler tubing. The joint was soldered, and the motor cooler was pressurized to assure that the leak had been repaired. The pump was returned to service well within the seven days permitted by Technical Specification 3.17.2.1 both times the leakage was observed. Replacement motor coolers have been ordered, and delivery of the coolers is expected by April 30, 1979. In addition, consideration will be given to removing the plug from the motor casing drain to prevent any future leakage from reaching the pump motor.

