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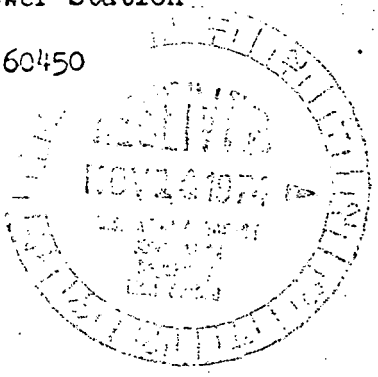
EBS Ltr.#809-74

Regulatory Docket File

Dresden Nuclear Power Station
R. R. #1
Morris, Illinois 60450
November 12, 1974



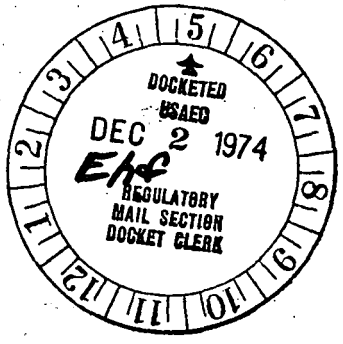
Mr. James G. Keppler, Regional Director
Directorate of Regulatory Operations-Region III
U. S. Atomic Energy Commission
799 Roosevelt Road
Glen Ellyn, Illinois 60137

SUBJECT: REPORT OF ABNORMAL OCCURRENCE PER SECTION 6.6.A OF THE TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS
UNIT 2 APRM #3 15% SCRAM SETPOINT EXCEEDED SPECIFICATION

References: 1) Regulatory Guide 1.16 Rev.1 Appendix A

2) Notification of Region III of AEC Regulatory Operations
Telephone: Mr. P. Johnson, 1130 hours on November 3, 1974
Telegram: Mr. J. Keppler, 1350 hours on November 4, 1974

3) Drawing Number: GEK 13968



Report Number: 50-237/1974-57

Report Date: November 12, 1974

Occurrence Date: November 2, 1974

Facility: Dresden Nuclear Power Station, Morris, Illinois

IDENTIFICATION OF OCCURRENCE

The APRM #3 15% scram setpoint on Unit 2 was found to exceed the Technical Specification limit of less than or equal to 15% of rated neutron flux when the reactor mode switch is in the start-up/hot standby position (Specification 2.1.A.2). The "as found" setpoint reading was 15.5%.

CONDITIONS PRIOR TO OCCURRENCE

Unit #2 was at zero thermal power. The reactor mode switch was in the refuel position and the APRM rod block and scram functional test was in progress.

DESCRIPTION OF OCCURRENCE

The APRM rod block and scram functional test was in progress when APRM #3 15% scram setpoint was observed to be reading 15.5%. The APRM channel #3 was put in bypass and work request 10387 was written.

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DESIGNATION OF APPARENT CAUSE OF OCCURRENCE (Other)

The specific cause of the occurrence is not known. However, there are two possible causes.

The meter is mirror scale indication and it is possible because of parallax to misread the indication and adjust the setpoint above or below a specified point or to misread the indication during surveillance.

Also, it is possible that the APRM instrumentation had drifted with resultant change in the setpoint.

ANALYSIS OF OCCURRENCE

Channel #3 APRM is one of six channels which monitor thermal power. Three channels are assigned to each of the two reactor protection system channels. Any two channels which read 15% would initiate a scram. The other 5 channels were checked and did trip at the correct setting. All the channels were checked satisfactory prior to previous startup. The reading, which exceeded Technical Specification limits, was discovered prior to reactor startup and corrected prior to rod withdrawal.

It is therefore concluded that the safety of the plant personnel or the general public was not jeopardized as a result of this occurrence.

CORRECTIVE ACTION

The setting will be reduced to 14½% to eliminate the possibility of misadjustment of the setpoint to above Technical Specification limits and to reduce the possibility of the indication being misread due to parallax.

A drift analysis of the instrument will be pursued to determine if the instrument setpoint is drifting. This would consist of recording meter indication and voltage at the alarm trip point several days of the week for APRM #3 channel and at least two additional channels for comparison. An analysis of the data will be made after sufficient data has been obtained for evaluation.

FAILURE DATA

If it is verified that APRM #3 channel setpoint does drift, this would be the first occurrence, therefore, no cumulative experience is available. The vendor/part number for APRM #3 channel is 919D581G3 of General Electric Tech Manual GEK-13968.

Sincerely,

B. B. Stephenson
Superintendent

BBS:GC:do