

EVENT DESCRIPTION (Continued)

routine daily changing of the chimney sample cartridges on 5-24 and 5-25. The sample valve remained closed until approximately 0800 hours on 5-26, when a special sample was taken. The sample valve was reopened per procedure at this time, and the chimney sampling system returned to normal.

The closure of this particular valve precluded use of the redundant sampling system and resulted in a Tech Spec violation. Because of the 6 to 7-day delay in counting chimney samples (to allow decay of short-lived radionuclides), the chimney sampling system had been operating normally for 6 days before the abnormally low sample results became apparent. This is not a repetitive occurrence. (50-237/1976-38)

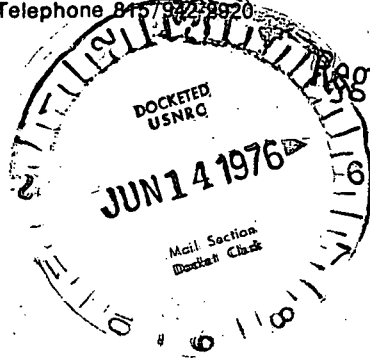
CAUSE DESCRIPTION (Continued)

because of significant air leakage into the suction side of the sampling system. This in-leakage allowed sufficient flow through the system to prevent actuation of the low-flow alarm.

The technician involved was reprimanded and informed of the consequences of his negligence. Immediate corrective action was to seal leaks in the suction piping and to adjust high and low-flow alarm setpoints to more conservative values. To prevent recurrence, a check for proper alarm functioning upon closure of the sample valve will be added to the sampling procedure.



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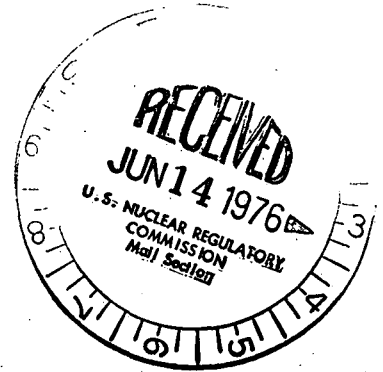


Regulatory Docket File

June 9, 1976

BBS Ltr. #76-442

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



Enclosed please find Reportable Occurrence 50-237/1976-38. This report is being submitted to your office in accordance with the Dresden Nuclear Power Station Technical Specifications, Section 6.6.B.

Arthur M. Roberts
for B. B. Stephenson
Station Superintendent
Dresden Nuclear Power Station

BBS:jo

Enclosure

cc: Director of Inspection & Enforcement
Director of Management Information & Program Control
File/NRC File

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