Commonwealth Edison Company

ONE FIRST NATIONAL PLAZA ★ CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

Address Reply to:

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

August 1, 1972

50-249

Mr. Edward J. Bloch, Acting Director
Division of Reactor Licensing
U. S. Atomic Energy Commission
Washington, D.C. 20545

Regulatory File Cy.

Subject: License DPR-25, Dresden Nuclear Power Station
Unit #3, Section 6.6.B.2 of the Technical Specifications

Dear Mr. Bloch:

This is to report a condition relating to the operation of the station in which, during the calibration, a reactor pressure scram switch was found to have drifted beyond the limits of instrument accuracy, resulting in a setpoint beyond that allowed in section 3.1 of the Technical Specifications.

PROBLEM AND INVESTIGATION

During routine calibration on July 18, 1972, switch PS-3-263-55A was found set at a value corresponding to 1075 psig, compared to the limit of 1060 psig increasing. The switch was immediately recalibrated. The switch, a meletron model 372-65549A-292, is a bourdon tube type, with 316 type stainless steel. The range is 28-1400 psig and accuracy is ± 1%.

A review of the calibration history of this switch and others like it, shows an apparent tendency for the setpoint to drift upward during the summer and downward during the winter.

CORRECTIVE ACTION

The cause of the setpoint drift has not, as yet been determined, A spare switch will be purchased and installed so that one of the drifting switches

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can be removed and returned to the manufacturer for analysis. Meanwhile the calibration frequency of these switches has been increased to monthly during the summer months, when drift is in the non-conservative direction.

Sincerely,

W. P. Worden

W. P. Worden
Superintendent

WPW:sds