



**Commonwealth Edison**  
One First National Plaza, Chicago, Illinois  
Address Reply to: Post Office Box 767  
Chicago, Illinois 60690

*D. Latham*

**REGULATORY DOCKET FILE COPY**

BBS Ltr. #77-189

March 9, 1977



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 report number 50-249/1977-3. This report is being submitted to your office in accordance with the Dresden Nuclear Power Station Technical Specifications, Section 6.6.B.

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

776820006

MAR 14 1977

CONTROL BLOCK: 1 6

PLEASE PRINT ALL REQUIRED INFORMATION

LICENSEE NAME: 01 I L D R S 3  
LICENSE NUMBER: 00-000000-00  
LICENSE TYPE: 41111  
EVENT TYPE: 03

CON'T: 01  
CATEGORY: 57 58  
REPORT TYPE: L  
REPORT SOURCE: L  
DOCKET NUMBER: 050-0249  
EVENT DATE: 020877  
REPORT DATE: 031077

EVENT DESCRIPTION

02 During normal operation, APRM #6 indication appeared to be registering power level  
03 fluctuations of 6 - 10%. In the course of investigating this condition, all APRM  
04 averaging card relays were checked for proper operation. (50-249/1977-3)  
05  
06

SYSTEM CODE: IA  
CAUSE CODE: E  
COMPONENT CODE: RELAY X  
PRIME COMPONENT SUPPLIER: N  
COMPONENT MANUFACTURER: G080  
VIOLATION: N

CAUSE DESCRIPTION

08 The indication fluctuations on APRM #6 were found to have been caused by mar-  
09 ginally functional reed relay contacts on the APRM #6 averaging card. The reed  
10 relay contacts were replaced, and the APRM #6 averaging card circuitry was tested  
(Continued)

11 FACILITY STATUS: E % POWER: 098 OTHER STATUS: NA METHOD OF DISCOVERY: C DISCOVERY DESCRIPTION: NA  
12 FORM OF ACTIVITY RELEASED: Z CONTENT OF RELEASE: Z AMOUNT OF ACTIVITY: NA LOCATION OF RELEASE: NA

PERSONNEL EXPOSURES

13 NUMBER: 000 TYPE: Z DESCRIPTION: NA

PERSONNEL INJURIES

14 NUMBER: 000 DESCRIPTION: NA

OFFSITE CONSEQUENCES

15 NA

LOSS OR DAMAGE TO FACILITY

16 TYPE: Z DESCRIPTION: NA

PUBLICITY

17 NA

ADDITIONAL FACTORS

18 NA

19

NAME: Desi Santanna PHONE: EXT. 265

CAUSE DESCRIPTION (Continued)

satisfactorily.

The discovery of an averaging card circuit problem on APRM #6 prompted an operability check of the remaining APRM averaging cards. During this check it was discovered that the reed relay contacts on relay K11 (which connects the LPRM 16-09B input to averaging card Z29 of APRM #5) appeared to be physically separated. As a result, upon coil energization, the contacts closed but failed to touch one another, thus preventing the LPRM 16-09B input from entering the averaging circuitry of APRM #5. Furthermore, 15 additional LPRM input-related relays on Unit-3 were found to exhibit higher-than-average contact resistance.

As stated previously, the marginally functional reed relay contacts identified for APRM #6 were replaced, as were the failed relay contacts for APRM #5 (both units are General Electric Co. type GE 176A1405P003 components). The 15 Unit-3 LPRM's associated with the above-mentioned relays have been bypassed pending the receipt of additional relays (which are presently on order). This action was taken as a matter of good operating practice. Since all APRM's on Unit-3 still retain more than the required number of LPRM inputs, this event is considered to be of little safety significance.

To ensure timely identification of any recurring failures, the Unit-3 APRM averaging card relays will be checked again in approximately one year's time. Although a similar relay failure was subsequently identified on Unit-2, this was the first reported failure of this nature at Dresden.