

REGULATOR INFORMATION DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM (RIDS)

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 FACIL: 50-296 Browns Ferry Nuclear Power Station, Unit 3, Tennessee 05000296
 AUTH. NAME: ABERCROMBIE, H.L. AUTHOR AFFILIATION: Tennessee Valley Authority
 RECIPIENT NAME: RECIPIENT AFFILIATION:

SUBJECT: RO-50-296/7918: on 791030, during logic testing per LPCI mods, simultaneous starting of two RHR pumps occurred. Caused by mismatch between current transformer ratios on normal supply to shutdown boards. Transformers will be changed.

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1. The first part of the report deals with the general situation in the country. It is noted that the economy is still in a state of depression and that the government is facing a serious financial crisis. The report also mentions that the population is suffering from a lack of food and clothing.

2. The second part of the report discusses the political situation. It is noted that the government is still in a state of instability and that there is a lack of confidence in the leadership. The report also mentions that there are rumors of a coup d'état.

3. The third part of the report deals with the social situation. It is noted that there is a high level of unemployment and that the living standards are very low. The report also mentions that there is a lack of social services and that the population is suffering from a lack of education and health care.

4. The fourth part of the report discusses the international situation. It is noted that the country is still isolated and that there is a lack of international support. The report also mentions that there are rumors of a military intervention by a neighboring country.

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DFED-50-296/7918

Reported under Technical Specifications 6.7.2.a.(9):

Date of Occurrence: 10/30/79 Time of Occurrence: 1133 hrs. Unit 3

Technical Specification involved: not applicable - FSAR 8.4.4.1

Conditions Prior to Occurrence: Unit 3 was in refusing shutdown.

Identification and Description of Occurrence: During logic testing associated with LFCI modifications, a simultaneous starting of two RHR pumps occurred. This simultaneous starting caused a differential relay operation of the normal supply to the shutdown board from the unit board. Analysis of causes and operator actions required were completed on November 2, 1979.

Apparent Cause of Occurrence: Investigation has revealed that a mismatch exists between the current transformer ratios on the normal supply to the shutdown boards. This mismatch allows current to flow through the relay coils whenever a primary current differential of 600 amps exists. The simultaneous starting of the RHR pumps is the only event identified that can cause this differential current to exist.

Other Related Events: LFCI logic testing was in progress.

Corrective Action Taken or Planned: The current transformers will be changed to assure proper matching of secondary currents with primary currents. This action will be taken prior to unit startup. We have reviewed the design of all other units' electrical safety-related systems and have determined that no other cases exist of current transformer mismatch.

Robert Abercrombie

H. L. Abercrombie,
Power Plant Superintendent
Browns Ferry Nuclear Plant

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