

TOLEDO EDISON COMPANY
DAVIS-BESSE NUCLEAR POWER STATION UNIT ONE
SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION FOR LER NP-33-79-50

DATE OF EVENT: March 30, 1979

FACILITY: Davis-Besse Unit 1

IDENTIFICATION OF OCCURRENCE: Borated Water Storage Tank (BWST) low level trip setpoint in Safety Features Actuation System (SFAS) Channel 2 was out of tolerance

Conditions Prior to Occurrence: The unit was in Mode 1, with Power (MWT) = 2023, and Load (Gross MWE) = 665.

Description of Occurrence: At 1045 hours on March 30, 1979 during the performance of Surveillance Test ST 5031.01, "SFAS Monthly Test" on SFAS Channel 2, it was found that the BWST low level trip setpoint was out of tolerance by less than one inch of BWST level.

This occurrence placed the unit in Action Statement 9 of Technical Specification 3.3.2.1. This Technical Specification states that the BWST level instrument strings shall be operable while the unit is in Modes 1, 2, and 3. Action Statement 9 states that with one channel inoperable, operation may proceed provided the inoperable unit is placed in the tripped condition within one hour, and three other channels are operable.

Designation of Apparent Cause of Occurrence: The cause of this occurrence was initially attributed to drift of the analog amplifier. However, on May 2, 1979 under Maintenance Work Order MWO IC-246-79, investigation showed the cause to be a noisy constant current test potentiometer located within the SFAS cabinet.

Analysis of Occurrence: There was no danger to the health and safety of the public or to station personnel. The other three BWST low level instrument strings were operable during the period that the setpoint for Channel 2 was out of tolerance. The setpoint did not fail completely but drifted less than one inch of BWST level.

Corrective Action: At 1140 hours on March 30, 1979, the SFAS Channel 2 BWST low level trip setpoint was reset to within tolerance limits as given in Technical Specification 3.3.2.1 by performing Surveillance Test ST 5031.01. The bistable was declared operable within one hour of the initial failure. Further investigation determined the analog amplifier as a possible source of drift. On April 9, 1979, it was calibrated. On May 2, 1979 during Mode 5 operation, investigation under MWO IC-246-79 showed that a noisy constant current test potentiometer located within the SFAS cabinet was the actual cause of the bistable drift. The potentiometer was replaced and the bistable successfully retested on May 4, 1979 under ST 5031.01, and declared operable.

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Failure Data: Three previous incidents of Channel 2 BWST level bistables being out of tolerance were reported in Licensee Event Reports NP-33-78-84, NP-33-78-133, and NP-33-79-06.

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