

DAIRYLAND POWER COOPERATIVE

La Crosse, Wisconsin

54601

June 27, 1979

In reply, please
refer to LAC-6376

DOCKET NO. 50-409

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

SUBJECT: DAIRYLAND POWER COOPERATIVE
LA CROSSE BOILING WATER REACTOR (LACBWR)
PROVISIONAL OPERATING LICENSE NO. DPR-45
REPORTABLE OCCURRENCE NO. 79-11

Reference: (1) LACBWR Technical Specifications,
Section 3.9.1.b(1).
(2) LACBWR Technical Specifications,
Section 4.0.2.2, Table 4.0.2.2.1-1,
Functional Unit 1.b.

Dear Mr. Keppler:

In accordance with Reference 1, this is to inform you of a reactor protection system instrument setting found to be less conservative than that established by the Technical Specifications, but which did not prevent the fulfillment of the required protective function of the affected system. The subject occurrence involved the discovery of an upscale trip setpoint on a power range nuclear instrument channel exceeding a Technical Specification prescribed value.

During the conduct of monthly surveillance testing on Power Range Nuclear Instrument Channels 5, 6, 7 and 8 as performed June 1, 1979, the upscale trip setpoint on NI Channel 6 was found to exceed the prescribed Technical Specification Limit (Reference 2). The Technical Specification limit trip setpoint is < 120% of rated thermal power. The NI Channel 6 trip setpoint was found to be 121.8% of rated thermal power. The trip setpoint was reset to the value prescribed in the surveillance test procedure (118% rated thermal power) and a retest was successfully conducted to verify correct trip setpoint. The cause of the setpoint drift was not determined. NI Channel 6 was previously tested on May 4, 1979 and revealed the upscale setpoint to be 117.6% of rated thermal power and in conformance with the surveillance test procedure prescribed value. The reactor was

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LAC-6376
June 27, 1979

operating at 33% of rated thermal power at the time of surveillance test conduct.

NI Channel 6 functions along with Channels 5, 7, and 8 to provide overpower protection in a 2 of 4 scram logic when reactor thermal power is greater than 15%. Below 15% power, NI channels 5 and 6 provide overpower protection in a 1 of 2 scram logic.

The NI Channel 6 upscale setpoint was checked on June 21, 1979 to determine if setpoint drift was evident. The setpoint was found to be exactly as previously set on June 1, 1979, i.e., 113% of rated thermal power. The next two scheduled nuclear instrumentation surveillance tests will be conducted on June 29, 1979 and July 27, 1979. As a means to assure setpoint stabilization, an extra check of the upscale setpoint, similar to that performed on June 1, will be performed on NI Channel 6 approximately midway between those dates during the week of July 9th.

Should significant drift of the NI Channel 6 upscale setpoint not be indicated, no further action will be performed.

A Licensee Event Report (Ref. Appendix A, Regulatory Guide 1.16, Revision 4) is enclosed.

Should you have any questions concerning this report, please contact us.

Very truly yours,

DAIRYLAND POWER COOPERATIVE

Frank Linder, General Manager

FL:LGP:af

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Enclosure

cc: Director, Office of Inspection and Enforcement (30)
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, D. C. 20555

Director, Office of Management Information and (3)
Program Control
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, D. C. 20555