

OYSTER CREEK NUCLEAR GENERATING STATION
Forked River, New Jersey 08731

Licensee Event Report
Reportable Occurrence No. 50-219/79-17/3L-0

Report Date

June 15, 1979

Occurrence Date

May 17, 1979

Identification of Occurrence

Core Spray System II parallel isolation valve V-20-21 became inoperable in the open position when the motor operator breaker tripped. This event is considered to be a reportable occurrence as defined in the Technical Specifications, paragraph 6.9.2.B.2.

Conditions Prior to Occurrence

The plant was in a cold shutdown condition.

Plant parameters at the time of the occurrence were:

Reactor coolant temperature - 150.4°F
Reactor level - 81.5" Yarway
All control rods fully inserted

Description of Occurrence

On Thursday, May 17, 1979, at approximately 0258 hours, during routine surveillance of Core Spray System II, parallel isolation valve V-20-21 failed to operate as required. Parallel isolation valve V-20-21 failed to close after testing pressure switch RE17C. Investigation revealed that the motor operator circuit breaker had tripped.

Subsequently, the valve motor operator and the breaker were checked and tested. Results of the tests indicated that the valve motor operator was functioning properly, but the circuit breaker internal contacts in the "B" phase were not making proper contact.

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Apparent Cause of Occurrence

The apparent cause of this occurrence is attributed to the circuit breaker internal contacts making poor contact in the B phase, thus creating an over-current condition that caused the breaker to trip.

Analysis of Occurrence

The safety significance of this event is considered to be minimal since each of the parallel isolation valves are designed for rated system flow and the alternate parallel valve, V-20-41, was demonstrated to be operable. Had the core spray system been required at the time the valve was inoperable, the system would have operated as intended.

Corrective Action

The corrective action was to replace the circuit breaker with a new one of the same type and model. Due to the large number of breakers of this type on site and their operational history, this appears to be an isolated event. The failed breaker was inadvertently discarded; therefore, as a result, it was not possible to analyze it for the exact cause of failure. Breakers of this type are tested through the preventative maintenance program (current tested) and normal surveillance testing. This provides additional insurance of detecting a potential problem developing with these types of breakers.

Failure Data

General Electric
E100 Line Circuit Breaker
Type TEF with Adjustable Magnetic Trip Only
Model TEF136M1010

Magnetic Range Amps
Min., 28 Max., 68
Poles -3 Volts 600 AC
Continuous Amperes 10

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