

DAIRYLAND POWER COOPERATIVE

La Crosse, Wisconsin

54601

November 13, 1979

In reply, please
refer to LAC-6643

DOCKET NO. 50-409

Mr. James G. Keppler
Regional Director
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Directorate of Regulatory Operations
Region III
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. 79-17

References: (1) LACBWR Technical Specifications,
Section 3.9.2.a.(2)
(2) LACBWR Technical Specifications,
Section 4.2.2.3

Dear Mr. Keppler:

In accordance with Reference (1), this is to inform you of operation during which a limiting condition was exceeded.

On November 9, 1979, an unexpected reduction in freedom of movement of the turbine governor initial pressure regulator contributed to primary system pressure and flow variations which resulted in a reactor scram.

Following the scram, the cooldown rate of the reactor vessel averaged 423 °F/hr. during a 22-minute period where the initial temperature was 560 °F and the later temperature was 405 °F. LACBWR Technical Specifications (Reference 2) limits the reactor vessel cooldown rate to 150 °F/hr. during shutdown operations of the reactor.

Following a similar experience in May 1970 where the reactor vessel cooldown rate exceeded Technical Specification limits, a detailed engineering analysis was performed ("Reactor Vessel Stresses, Fuel Temperature and Cladding Stress Calculations Following Main Steam Bypass Valve Malfunction" - United Nuclear Corporation report SS-588 dated June 8, 1970). The cooldown rate analyzed in this

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report was greater than the cooldown rate recently experienced. The report concluded that the vessel stresses during the 1970 incident were well within the allowable stress intensities of Section III, ASME Boiler and Pressure Vessel Code, Nuclear Vessels.

Prompt notification of this event was made to Mr. Schoules of Region III, U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, at 1700 on November 9, 1979.

If there are any questions concerning this report, please contact us.

Very truly yours,

DAIRYLAND POWER COOPERATIVE

Frank Linder, General Manager

FL:LSG:af

cc: Director, Office of Management Information
and Program Control
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, D. C. 20555