

TOLEDO EDISON COMPANY
DAVIS-BESSE NUCLEAR POWER STATION UNIT ONE
SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION FOR LER NP-33-80-23

DATE OF EVENT: February 17, 1980

FACILITY: Davis-Besse Unit 1

IDENTIFICATION OF OCCURRENCE: Borated Water Storage Tank (BWST) Level Indication in Safety Features Actuation System (SFAS) Channel 3 was out of tolerance

Conditions Prior to Occurrence: The unit was in Mode 1, with Power (MWT) = 2753, and Load (Gross MWE) = 915.

Description of Occurrence: On February 17, 1980 at 2048 hours, it was noted by operations personnel that the SFAS Channel 3 BWST level indication was reading approximately six feet higher than the other three BWST level indications. The channel was declared inoperable by operations personnel and at 2103 hours, the channel was placed in the tripped condition. This occurrence placed the unit in Action Statement 9 of Technical Specification 3.3.2.1. This technical specification states that BWST level instrument strings shall be operable in Modes 1, 2, and 3. Action Statement 9 states that with one channel inoperable, operation may proceed provided (a) the inoperable unit is placed in the tripped condition within one hour, and (b) the remaining three channels are operable.

Designation of Apparent Cause of Occurrence: The apparent cause of the occurrence was the extremely cold weather conditions which caused the sensing line of the level transmitter (LT 1525C) to begin freezing up. Facility Change Request 79-123 (implemented December 13, 1979) which installed new enclosures around the level transmitters and relocated heat trace temperature sensors to worst case locations, was insufficient to protect against freezing during high wind conditions.

Analysis of Occurrence: There was no danger to the health and safety of the public or to station personnel. The remaining three BWST level instrument strings were operable during the period which Channel 3 BWST level instrument string was inoperable.

Corrective Action: On February 17, 1980 at 2200 hours, a temporary windbreak was constructed around the BWST level transmitter and a portable propane heater placed inside the windbreak. Within a short period of time after application of additional heating, the Channel 3 BWST level indication returned to normal. Surveillance Test ST 5099.01 was performed and on February 17, 1980, the Channel 3 BWST level instrument was declared operable. This removed the unit from the action statement. Toledo Edison is investigating further means of improving freeze protection.

Failure Data: Previous similar incidents occurring concerning BWST level indication failures due to freezing were reported under Licensee Event Reports NP-33-77-107, NP-33-78-01 (78-001), NP-33-79-32 (79-028) and NP-33-78-142 (78-121).