



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
REGION III
799 ROOSEVELT ROAD
GLEN ELLYN, ILLINOIS 60137

NOV 30 1979

Docket No. 50-367

Northern Indiana Public Service
Company
ATTN: Mr. Eugene M. Shorb
Senior Vice President
5265 Hohman Avenue
Hammond, IN 46325

Gentlemen:

The enclosed IE Bulletin No. 79-27, is forwarded to you for information. Although no written response is required at this time, these concerns will be addressed as part of the licensing process for your plant. If you desire additional information regarding this matter, please contact this office.

Sincerely,

Gen W. Rief
for James G. Keppler
Director

Enclosure: IE Bulletin
No. 79-27

cc w/encl:
Central Files
Director, NRR/DPM
Director, NRR/DOR
PDR
Local PDR
NSIC
TIC
Mr. Dean Hansell, Office of
Assistant Attorney General

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UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
OFFICE OF INSPECTION AND ENFORCEMENT
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555

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November 30, 1979

IE Bulletin No. 79-27

LOSS OF NON-CLASS-1-E INSTRUMENTATION AND CONTROL POWER SYSTEM BUS
DURING OPERATION

Description of Circumstances:

On November 10, 1979, an event occurred at the Oconee Power Station, Unit 3, that resulted in loss of power to a non-class-1-E 120 Vac single phase power panel that supplied power to the Integrated Control System (ICS) and the Non-Nuclear Instrumentation (NNI) System. This loss of power resulted in control system malfunctions and significant loss of information to the control room operator.

Specifically, at 3:16 p.m., with Unit 3 at 100 percent power, the main condensate pumps tripped, apparently as a result of a technician performing maintenance on the hotwell level control system. This led to reduced feedwater flow to the steam generators, which resulted in a reactor trip due to high coolant system pressure and simultaneous turbine trip at 3:16:57 p.m. At 3:17:15 p.m., the non-class-1-E inverter power supply feeding all power to the integrated control system (which provides proper coordination of the reactor, steam generator feedwater control, and turbine) and to one NNI channel tripped and failed to automatically transfer its loads from the DC power source to the regulated AC power source. The inverter tripped due to blown fuses. Loss of power to the NNI rendered control room indicators and recorders for the reactor coolant system (except for one wide-range RCS pressure recorder) and most of the secondary plant systems inoperable, causing loss of indication for systems used for decay heat removal and water addition to the reactor vessel and steam generators. Upon loss of power, all valves controlled by the ICS assumed their respective failure positions. The loss of power existed for approximately three minutes, until an operator could reach the equipment room and manually switch the inverter to the regulated AC source.

The above event was discussed in IE Information Notice No. 79-29, issued November 16, 1979.

NUREG 0600 "Investigation into the March 28, 1979 TMI Accident" also discusses TMI LER 78-021-03L whereby the RCS depressurized and Safety Injection occurred on loss of a vital bus due to inverter failure.

Actions to Be Taken by Licensees

For all power reactor facilities with completion of construction (North Anna Sequoyah, and Zimmer):

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DUPLICATE DOCUMENT

Entire document previously
entered into system under:

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