

Nebraska Public Power District

COOPER NUCLEAR STATION
P.O. BOX 98, BROWNVILLE, NEBRASKA 68321
TELEPHONE (402) 825-3811

CNSS800084

February 6, 1980

Mr. K. V. Seyfrit
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Office of Inspection and Enforcement
Region IV
611 Ryan Plaza
Suite 1000
Arlington, Texas 76011

Dear Sir:

This report is submitted in accordance with Section 6.7.2.3.2 of the Technical Specifications for Cooper Nuclear Station and discusses a reportable occurrence that was discovered on January 11, 1980. A licensee event report form is also enclosed.

Report No.: 50-298-80-03
Report Date: February 6, 1980
Occurrence Date: January 11, 1980
Facility: Cooper Nuclear Station
Brownville, Nebraska 68321

Identification of Occurrence:

A condition which lead to operation in a degraded mode permitted by a limiting condition for operation established in Section 3.7.D.2 of the Technical Specifications.

Conditions Prior to Occurrence:

The reactor was at a steady state power level of approximately 98% of rated thermal power.

Description of Occurrence:

While resetting the open limit switch to limit the valve opening to 45° as required by the NRC (reference letter Thomas A. Ippolito to J. M. Pilant dated October 23, 1979, "Interim Position For Containment Purge and Vent Valve Operation"), PC-230MV was observed to stop closing before the valve was fully closed.

Designation of Apparent Cause of Occurrence:

The cause of this occurrence was attributed to maintenance work done November 29, 1979. (Reference LER 79-39.) During this work, the Limitorque geared limit switch was taken apart and apparently reassembled incorrectly.

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Analysis of Occurrence:

PC-230MV is a 24 inch butterfly valve manufactured by Allis-Chalmers with a Limitorque SMB00 operator. It is the inboard of two valves in the suppression chamber ventilation line. These valves receive a closure signal by a Group 2 isolation signal. During operation these valves are both normally closed.

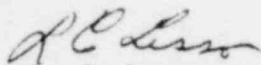
Inspection of the valve revealed that the closed limit switch was stopping the valve approximately 5° before it was completely shut. The geared limit switch was removed and it was found to have improper gear alignment. During the previous repair the gears had dropped off of the shaft during assembly and had not been replaced with correct alignment.

The downstream valve PC-245AV was closed the entire time that the valve was not shut completely and would have provided the containment isolation had one been required. This occurrence presented no adverse consequences from the standpoint of public health and safety.

Corrective Action:

The Limitorque geared limit switch was repaired so that all gears were properly aligned and the valve closed completely. The valve was operated several times to verify proper operation. The electricians were given additional training in the maintenance and repair of geared limit switches.

Sincerely,



L. C. Lessor
Station Superintendent
Cooper Nuclear Station

LCL:cg
Attach.