

DUKE POWER COMPANY  
OCONEE UNIT 2

Report No.: RO-270/76-7

Report Date: August 5, 1976

Occurrence Date: July 6, 1976

Facility: Oconee Unit 2, Seneca, South Carolina

Identification of Occurrence: Failure of Reactor Protective System Channel "B" to trip on high pressure setpoint during startup

Conditions Prior to Occurrence: Startup in progress

Description of Occurrence:

On July 6, 1976, during the startup of Oconee Unit 2, Reactor Protective System (RPS) Channel "B" failed to trip as required when the reactor coolant pressure reached 1720 psig. This is the high pressure setpoint when the RPS is in the shutdown bypass mode during startup or shutdown. The other three channels of the RPS did function properly.

Apparent Cause of Occurrence:

Investigation revealed that the instrument root valve for the RPS Channel "B" pressure transmitter had been inadvertently left closed. This resulted in isolation of the pressure transmitter which prevented the channel from tripping when the 1720 psig setpoint was reached. The valve had been left open as required following calibration of the pressure transmitter on May 2, 1976, but had been closed at some subsequent time before the unit startup was initiated.

Analysis of Occurrence:

Although RPS Channel "B" failed to trip as required in the shutdown bypass mode, the other three RPS channels tripped when the 1720 psig setpoint was reached. The Reactor Protective System utilizes a two-out-of-four redundant logic, and would have been disabled only if two other channels were inoperable. It is concluded that this occurrence did not impair the operability of the Reactor Protective System, and therefore, the health and safety of the public was not affected.

Corrective Action:

Station procedures are currently being revised to assure that, following refueling outages, instrumentation is checked for proper operation prior to unit heatup; and to assure that, following the performance of maintenance, instrument valves are returned to their pre-maintenance position. These revisions will be completed by August 15, 1976. It is felt that these measures will prevent further recurrences of this type.

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