

LCO VIOLATION REPORT

BROWNS FERRY NUCLEAR PLANT

Description of Violation

On July 6, 1980, the river temperature exceeded the maximum limitation of 90.0°F from 5:00 p.m. CDT until 6:15 p.m. CDT at the downstream monitor. The maximum downstream temperature of the reservoir which occurred during this period was 90.2°F at 5:29 p.m. CDT.

Cause of Violation

The predictive computer program underestimated the maximum downstream temperature during the period of violation by 0.2°F. Because of the underestimation, a rapid increase in the downstream temperature, the plant could not react quickly enough to avoid the violation.

Analysis of Violation

An analysis of the reservoir temperature before and after the violation indicates that the Environmental Technical Specification limit regarding temperature increase was exceeded. This information is shown on the attached graph. Since the violation only lasted for 1 hour and 15 minutes and the maximum limit was only exceeded by 0.2°F, no significant adverse environmental impact was experienced in Wheeler Reservoir due to plant-induced heating.

Corrective Action

When it was noted at 1:38 p.m. CDT that the temperature continued to approach the maximum limit of 90.0°F, plant personnel began using the cooling tower for one unit. The second unit was put on the cooling towers at 3:55 p.m. CDT after noticing that the downstream temperature was 89.7°F and still rising. At 3:55 p.m. CDT, the station load was reduced by 50 megawatts. Since the downstream temperature continued to rise, plant personnel reduced the station load by an additional 50 megawatts at 4:38 p.m. CDT. As a result of these actions, the duration and magnitude of the downstream temperature violations were minimized.

Recommendation to Avoid Future Violations

If the predictive computer program estimates that the downstream reservoir temperature will reach 90.0°F, mitigative action will be taken sooner.

Attachment

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DOWNSTREAM RIVER TEMPERATURE AND DELTA TEMPERATURE

JULY 6, 1980

