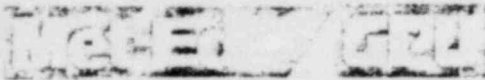


TERA

POOR ORIGINAL



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Middletown, Pennsylvania 17057
717 944-4011

Writer's Direct Dial Number

July 31, 1980
TIL 379

Office of Inspection and Enforcement
Attn: Boyce R. Grier, Director
Region I
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
611 Park Avenue
King of Prussia, Pennsylvania 19106

Dear Sir:

Three Mile Island Nuclear Station, Unit 11 (TMI-2)
Operating License No. DPH-73
Booklet No. 80-110
Licensee Event Report No. 80-23/19

This letter is to confirm the conversation between Mr. G. A. Kunder, Unit 11 Plant Operations Review Committee Chairman, and Mr. R. J. Conca, Senior Resident Inspector, Three Mile Island, Unit 11 Program Office at 0910 hours on July 31, 1980. Mr. R. J. Conca (Region I Designee) agreed to inform the Region I Director of this conversation.

A condition considered reportable under Technical Specification 4.2.1.3.1 was entered at 1700 hours on July 30, 1980. Information was received from Gould/TE concerning the failure that was experienced with one of their mechanical timer units (J2070) that had been returned for evaluation (reference Special Report 80-003/99X-0 2/13/80, TIL 090).

Their initial inspection indicated that variation in the "On Delay" position was instantaneous because the range selector was turned all the way down. When the time range was moved to the maximum position, the unit functioned in both the "On" and "Off" delay positions, but the timing was erratic (20 to 112 sec. for the 120 second timing range). This unit was manufactured in 1975/6 and could be subject to some deterioration. Also, if the timer is turned down too far in this timer type relay the seat and valve may be damaged, causing a wider variation in timing.

The Allied Relay Division inspector verified the poor synchronization and high contact resistance, suggesting the problem as caused by age as well as possible timer valve damage. They suggest use of later type or a different timer timing scales for this application.

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