



Nebraska Public Power District

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

CNSS800457

August 11, 1980

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

Dear Sir:

This report is submitted in accordance with Section 6.7.2.B.2 of the Technical Specifications for Cooper Nuclear Station and discusses a reportable occurrence that was discovered on July 13, 1980. A licensee event report form is also enclosed.

Report No.: 50-298-80-28
Report Date: August 11, 1980
Occurrence Date: July 13, 1980
Facility: Cooper Nuclear Station
Brownville, Nebraska 68321

Identification of Occurrence:

A condition occurred which lead to operation in a degraded mode as permitted by Table 3.2.D of the Technical Specifications.

Conditions Prior to Occurrence:

Routine power operation with the plant power at approximately 97% thermal power.

Description of Occurrence:

A downscale alarm occurred on the General Electric Reactor Building Vent Monitor, RMP-RM-452A.

Designation of Apparent Cause of Occurrence:

The cause for the downscale reading was due to low voltage from the power supply. The power supply was checked and two electrolytic capacitors were found defective. It is believed that the subject capacitors failed due to aging.

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Analysis of Occurrence:

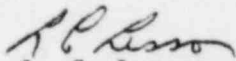
The function of the Reactor Building Vent Monitor, RMP-RM-452A, is to monitor exhaust air for airborne radiation. The radiation reading was normal prior to and during this failure as indicated by the redundant system that was operable at the time of this occurrence. This occurrence presented no adverse potential consequences from the standpoint of public health and safety.

General Electric SIL No. 290 describes a failure mechanism for electrolytic capacitors and recommends testing that can be performed to detect deterioration. However, the testing had not been performed on these capacitors because it requires unsoldering and resoldering connections which can also lead to potential problems.

Corrective Action:

The two electrolytic capacitors that failed were replaced and the unit was placed back into service. The corresponding capacitors in the redundant channel will be removed and checked during the next quarterly surveillance test. Tested capacitors will be installed.

Sincerely,



L. C. Lessor
Station Superintendent
Cooper Nuclear Station

LCL:cg
Attach.