Nebraska Public Power District

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

CNSS800640

October 31, 1980

Mr. K. V. Seyfrit, Director
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 October 3, 1980. A licensee event report form is also enclosed.

Report No.: 50-298-80-36
Report Date: October 31, 1980
Occurrence Date: October 3, 1980
Facility: Cooper Nuclear Station
Brownville, Nebraska 68321

Identification of Occurrence:
A condition resulting in operation in a degraded mode as permitted by the limiting condition for operation established in Section 3.7.D.2 of the Technical Specifications.

Conditions Prior to Occurrence:
The reactor was operating at a steady state power level of approximately 95% of rated thermal power.

Description of Occurrence:
During performance of surveillance procedure 6.3.1.4, a discharge valve from the drywell equipment Sump "G" (RW-AO-95), would not close in $\leq$15 seconds as specified in Table 3.7.1 of the Technical Specifications.

Designation of Apparent Cause of Occurrence:
The apparent cause of this occurrence is believed to be associated with a non-repetitive friction factor between the piston U-cup seal and cylinder of the air operator.

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Analysis of Occurrence:

RW-AO-95 is the outboard isolation valve on the discharge line from drywell equipment drain Sump "G". RW-AO-94 is the inboard isolation valve and was tagged closed following this occurrence. RW-AO-95 is operated by a piston cylinder type air operator with a solenoid pilot valve which controls the air flow to the air operator. RW-AO-95 can also be manually operated with a handwheel.

At the time of this occurrence, the subject air operator was sluggish in operation. Subsequent to several cycles of the air operator, the sluggish operation was resolved and the closing time requirement was attained.

Piston cylinder type air operators have been previously observed to become sluggish in operation after the operator has remained in one position for a period of time. It is believed that this observation is an inherent problem with piston cylinder type air operators and can be resolved by increasing the cycling frequency and/or installing an in-line lubricator on the air supply line. The recommended resolution in this case is to increase the cycle frequency from quarterly to monthly.

This occurrence had no adverse affect on the public health and safety.

Corrective Action:

The solenoid pilot valve associated with the subject air operator was inspected and tested satisfactorily. The subject air operator has been operated on a weekly basis with no apparent sluggish operation. Based on the above testing, RW-AO-94 and 95 along with RW-AO-82 and 83, which are the corresponding valves associated with the drywell floor drain Sump "F", have been included in the monthly valve operability section of Surveillance Procedure 6.3.1.4.

Sincerely,

L. C. Lessor
Station Superintendent
Cooper Nuclear Station

LCL:cg
Attach.