

DUKE POWER COMPANY

POWER BUILDING

422 SOUTH CHURCH STREET, CHARLOTTE, N. C. 28242

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WILLIAM O. PARKER, JR.  
VICE PRESIDENT  
STEAM PRODUCTION

May 18, 1981

TELEPHONE: AREA 704  
373-4083

Mr. J. P. O'Reilly, Director  
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Region II  
101 Marietta Street, Suite 3100  
Atlanta, Georgia 30303

Re: McGuire Nuclear Station Unit 1  
Docket No. 50-369

Dear Mr. O'Reilly:

Please find attached Reportable Occurrence Report RO-369/81-58. This report concerns the average lower containment air temperature exceeding 120°F. This incident was considered to be of no significance with respect to the health and safety of the public.

Very truly yours,

*William O. Parker, Jr.*  
William O. Parker, Jr.

RWO/djs  
Attachment

cc: Director  
Office of Management and Program Analysis  
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Washington, D.C. 20555

Mr. Bill Lavalee  
Nuclear Safety Analysis Center  
Post Office Box 10412  
Palo Alto, California 94303

Ms. M. J. Graham  
Resident Inspector-NRC  
McGuire Nuclear Station



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McGUIRE NUCLEAR STATION

INCIDENT REPORT

REPORT NUMBER: 81-58

REPORT DATE: May 7, 1981

OCCURRENCE DATE: April 18, 1981

FACILITY: McGuire Unit 1, Cornelius, N.C.

IDENTIFICATION OF OCCURRENCE: The average lower containment air temperature exceeded 120°F.

CONDITIONS PRIOR TO OCCURRENCE: Mode 3, Hot Standby

DESCRIPTION OF OCCURRENCE: At 0305 hours on April 18, 1981, a lower containment high temperature alarm was received in the Control Room. The feeder breakers for containment ventilation (VL) air handling units (AHU's) C and D had tripped (breakers deenergized). This was reportable pursuant to Technical Specification 3.6.1.5 since the containment temperature exceeded 120°F.

APPARENT CAUSE OF OCCURRENCE: The magnetic overload switch on VL AHU D breaker (EMXD-2A) was found on April 11 to be adjusted incorrectly. This degraded the operation of the breaker and caused it to trip below its setpoint. It could not be determined why VL AHU C breaker (EMXC-2A) tripped.

ANALYSIS OF OCCURRENCE: A work request was written on April 8 to repair VL AHU D breaker. It was tripping (breaker deenergizing) when the unit was operating in high speed. It was found that the current draw in high speed was approximately 110 amps (normal). This was the same as the other VL AHU's (A, B, and C). The belts and filters were in a good operating condition. On April 11, it was discovered that the magnetic overload (overcurrent) switch for VL AHU D breaker was depressed in the intermediate position between 2 and 3. The switch was adjusted to the number 2 position. Also, when the switch is depressed, it cannot be determined what the breaker trip setpoint will be. VL AHU D operated satisfactorily and the work request was signed off complete on April 15. Another work request was written on April 16 to repair VL AHU D as it had begun tripping again on high speed. The breaker magnetic overload switch was adjusted to the number 4 position and the unit was returned to service.

At 0305 hours on April 18, lower containment temperatures increased above 120°F because VL AHU's C and D had tripped (breakers deenergized). VL AHU C breaker (EMXC-2A) was reset and returned to service at 0339 hours. The magnetic overload switch on VL AHU D was adjusted to the number 6 position and the unit was operational a short while later.

At 1542 hours, lower containment high temperature alarm was received in the Control Room. VL AHU's C and D had tripped again. It was noticed that the breakers were hot. After the breakers cooled, they were reset and AHU's C and D were returned to service. There have not been any more tripping problems with VL AHU C.

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At approximately 2130 hours, after VL AHU D had tripped several times, a fan was placed in front of the breaker cubicle to cool the breaker. The breaker operated satisfactorily until April 23.

On April 23, the fuse contacts on VL AHU D breaker were cleaned and Tron clips were installed on them to ensure good electrical contact. The magnetic overload switch was adjusted to the number 3 position and the fan removed. The breaker tripped once when the unit was operated in high speed. The magnetic overload switch was set to position number 5 and the breaker tripped three times on high speed. The fan was reinstalled and thus far the breaker has not tripped again.

VL AHU D breaker (EMXD-2A) was replaced on May 3, but the unit has not been operated because of preventative maintenance (changing a pulley, belts, checking the bearings, etc.). The unit will be operated when the preventative maintenance is completed.

SAFETY ANALYSIS: VL AHU D would operate on low speed with no tripping problems and on high speed with a fan cooling its breaker. Thus, the health and safety of the public and safe plant operation were not affected. During normal operation, Technical Specification 3.6.1.5 requires the containment temperature be kept less than 120<sup>o</sup>F or the reactor must be shut down (Hot Standby) within 14 hours if the normal temperature cannot be restored by then.

CORRECTIVE ACTION: VL AHU C breaker (EMXC-2A) was reset and AHU C returned to service. VL AHU D breaker (EMXD-2A) was replaced on May 3, 1981; the unit will be checked out when the preventative maintenance on it is finished.