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MCGUIRE NUCLEAR STATION INCIDENT REPORT

Report Number: 369/81-05

Report Date: February 11, 1981

Occurrence Date: February 2, 1981

Facility: McGuire Unit 1, Cornelius, North Carolina

Identification of Occurrence: Both source range monitors (Excore Instrumentation) were inoperable for 30 seconds.

Conditions Prior to Occurrence: Initial Fuel Loading, Mode 6

Description of Occurrence:

On February 2, 1981 at 0802 hours, the source range monitors' power supplies were interrupted causing the indicating lights associated with the monitors to go off for approximately 30 seconds and then come back on. This happened while I&E personnel were performing maintenance work on steam generators lo-lo level alarms. The 30 second power interruption of these monitors caused a degraded mode of operation and was therefore reportable pursuant to Technical Specification 3.9.2.

Apparent Cause of Occurrence:

I&E personnel were investigating why the status lights on the steam generator A, B, and C lo-lo level alarms were actuated. As a troubleshooting technique, they attempted to completely isolate all input signals that might have actuated the status lights in the Control Room. Since these signals could be coming from either Train A or B, both 'INPUT ERROR INHIBIT' switches on the Solid State Protective System (SSPS) panel were inadvertently placed in the 'INHIBIT' position causing power interruption to the source range monitors.

Analysis of Occurrence:

The 30 second power interruption on the source range monitors occurred while there was maintenance work going on at the fuel transfer tube; the air pump that runs the conveyor was being replaced. Since there was no fuel movement at the time the incident occurred, there was no significant effect as to the safety and health of the public.

Corrective Action:

Power to the source range monitors were restored after 30 seconds of interruption when I&E personnel placed the 'INPUT ERROR INHIBIT' switch back in the 'NORMAL' position. I&E personnel were instructed not to perform maintenance work on testing on both trains of the SSPS cabinets at the same time even in Mode 6. IP/O/A/3010/05, SSPS Safeguard Test, prohibits testing of both trains at the same time.