



LER 1-81-16 ATTACHMENT

Facility: Unit No. 1

Date: 1-20-81

The closure of RIP X53C isolated the selected feedwater level control input instrument N004A, creating a level error signal in the feed pump control circuitry. The nature of the initial error (decreasing level) caused the feed pumps to increase speed to restore level to the normal band (32-42"). This increase in feed flow actually caused vessel level to exceed the normal band and increase to approximately 60 inches. At this time, the isolated N004A instrument began indicating an increasing vessel level and thus decreased feed pump speed, thereby decreasing vessel level. Vessel level decreased to approximately 12.5 inches, where a low level scram was initiated from level instruments N 7C & D. At no time during this event did the isolated level instrument N004A indicate out of the normal operating band. A normal scram recovery was then conducted.

This event was reviewed by the Plant Nuclear Safety Committee. As no reason could be determined for the RIP valve closure and testing after the scram indicated no problems; therefore, no follow-up action was deemed necessary for the valve. To assist the operator in identifying when a level instrument important to plant safety and/or operation is affected by the operability or position of its RIP valve, selected RIP valve indication/control modules have been color coded to allow easy and rapid identification.

This event was also reviewed to determine if our level instrumentation complied with IEEE 279-1971, Section 4.7.3. This review concluded that the installed equipment was in compliance with this document. This review and its conclusions were discussed in detail with NRC personnel from both IE and ONRR.