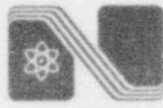


LER



# Nebraska Public Power District

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

CNSS817500

August 25, 1981

Mr. K. V. Seyfrit  
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Office of Inspection and Enforcement  
Region IV  
611 Ryan Plaza  
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 28, 1981. A licensee event report form is also enclosed.

Report No.: 50-298-81-20  
Report Date: August 25, 1981  
Occurrence Date: July 28, 1981  
Facility: Cooper Nuclear Station  
Brownville, Nebraska 68321

Identification of Occurrence:  
A condition occurred which resulted in operation in a degraded mode permitted by a limiting condition for operation established in Section 3.5.F.2 of the Technical Specifications.

Condition Prior to Occurrence:  
The reactor was at 96% of rated thermal power.

Description of Occurrence:  
This event occurred while testing #1 Diesel Generator (Surveillance Procedure 6.3.12.1) to return it to service following replacement of the flexible fuel line described in LER 81-19. During the test, a control air line fitting failed causing the DG to automatically shut down due to low control air pressure.

Designation of Apparent Cause of Occurrence:  
The failure of the fitting on the control air line occurred because the air line broke inside the fitting where the fitting ferrule was crimped to the line.

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Mr. K. V. Seyfrit  
August 25, 1981  
Page 2.

Analysis of Occurrence:

The station's emergency power system consists of two emergency diesel generators, each capable of supplying power for post accident safety system operation and safe reactor cooldown.

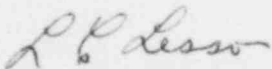
When attempting to test #1 DG to return it to service following the event described in LER 81-19, a control air line fitting failed, causing the DG to shut down due to low control air pressure. The fitting failed because the air line broke inside the fitting where the ferrule was crimped to the line. It is believed that engine vibration caused the air line to break at this stress point within the fitting. This condition existed for some undetermined period of time. Eventually, due to continued engine vibration, the fitting worked completely apart causing the loss of control air pressure and the automatic shutdown of #1 DG.

During this event the normal, startup and emergency transformers were available to supply power as the station required. This event presented no adverse consequences to the public health and safety.

Corrective Action:

The defective fitting on the air line was immediately replaced and the same line on the other DG was inspected. The DG was satisfactorily tested and returned to service. The vendor has been contacted and a visit to the site has been scheduled to determine if any additional deficiencies in the DG control air system exist.

Sincerely,



L. C. Lessor  
Station Superintendent  
Cooper Nuclear Station

LCL:cg  
Attach.