

USNRC REGION II
DUKE POWER COMPANY
P.O. BOX 33189
CHARLOTTE, N.C. 28242

HAL B. TUCKER
VICE PRESIDENT
NUCLEAR PRODUCTION

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June 30, 1983

TELEPHONE
(704) 373-4531

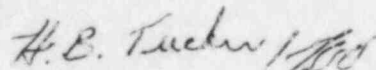
Mr. James P. O'Reilly, Regional Administrator
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Region II
101 Marietta Street, NW, Suite 2900
Atlanta, Georgia 30303

Re: Oconee Nuclear Station
Docket No. 50-270

Dear Mr. O'Reilly:

Please find attached Reportable Occurrence Report RO-270/83-08. This report is submitted pursuant to Oconee Nuclear Station Technical Specification 6.6.2.1.b(2) which concerns operation in a degraded mode permitted by a limiting condition for operation, and describes an incident which is considered to be of no significance with respect to its effect on the health and safety of the public.

Very truly yours,



Hal B. Tucker

JCP/pbp

Attachment

cc: Document Control Desk
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, D. C. 20555

INPO Records Center
Suite 1500
1100 Circle 75 Parkway
Atlanta, Georgia 30339

Mr. J. C. Bryant
NRC Resident Inspector
Oconee Nuclear Station

Mr. John F. Suermann
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, D. C. 20555

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Duke Power Company
Oconee Nuclear Station

Report Number: RO-270/83-08

Report Date: June 30, 1983

Occurrence Date: May 31, 1983

Facility: Oconee Unit 2, Seneca, South Carolina

Identification of Occurrence: The "2A" MDEFDWP Pump was made inoperable when power was removed to repair a switch.

Conditions Prior to Occurrence: 100% FP

Description of Occurrence: On May 31, 1983 at 1553, the "2A" Motor Driven Emergency Feedwater Pump (MDEFDWP) became inoperable when power was removed from its circuitry. Power was removed to facilitate repair of the "2B" Main Feedwater Pump Discharge Pressure Switch 2PS-388.

While performing the monthly safety related functional test of the MDEFDWF initiation pressure switches, pressure switch 2PS-388 failed. This switch is part of the auto-initiation circuitry for the "2A" MDEFDWP. When this switch is inoperable, it would prevent the "2A" MDEFDWP from automatically starting on low discharge pressure indication for both main feedwater pumps. To repair the switch, the breaker for the control circuitry for the subject pump was removed. This made the "2A" MDEFDWP inoperable and constituted operation in a degraded mode per Technical Specification 3.4.2(a).

Apparent Cause of Occurrence: The root cause of this occurrence is a component failure. Because the switch failed, the "2A" MDEFDWP had to be made inoperable to repair the switch and to restore the portion of automatic initiation capability that was lost back to the pump system. A small hole was found in the bellows of the switch which allowed water from the pressure line to get into the circuitry compartment causing it to fail when tested. During the previous monthly test, all of the "2A" MDEFDWP system met the required criteria.

Analysis of Occurrence: At the time "2A" MDEFDWP was inoperable, the main feedwater system was operable for decay heat removal and cooldown above 250°F. Also available to meet the same requirements were the "2B" MDEFDWP pump, the turbine driven emergency feedwater pump and emergency feedwater from the other two units. The removal of "2A" MDEFDWP was a planned action by Operations personnel. Appropriate plans for actions to be taken, if an event took place while "2A" MDEFDWP was inoperable, were made. Therefore, the health and safety of the public were not endangered.

Corrective Action: Pressure switch 2PS-388 was replaced with a new one. The new switch was calibrated and a functional test was made of the "2A" MDEFDWP auto-initiation circuitry. The "2A" MDEFDWP was declared operable at 0955 on June 1, 1983.