Nebraska Public Power District

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

CNSS820284

May 28, 1982

Mr. John T. Collins, Regional Administrator
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Region IV
611 Ryan Plaza Drive
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 April 28, 1982. A licensee event report form is also enclosed.

Report No.: 50-298-82-09
Report Date: May 28, 1982
Occurrence Date: April 28, 1982
Facility: Cooper Nuclear Station
Brownville, Nebraska 68321

Identification of Occurrence:
A condition which led to operation in a degraded mode permitted by a limiting condition established in Table 3.2.F of the Technical Specifications.

Conditions Prior to Occurrence:
The reactor was operating at a steady state power level of approximately 88% of rated thermal power.

Description of Occurrence:
During normal operation, suppression chamber level indicator PC-LI-13 was observed to be reading full scale.

Designation of Apparent Cause of Occurrence:
The failure of torus level indicator PC-LI-13 was due to a personnel error. A chemistry technician attempted to obtain a torus water sample from the reference instrument leg instead of the high pressure tap. The loss of water in the reference leg to PC-LT-13 caused PC-LI-13 to read full scale.

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Analysis of Occurrence:

Torus level is monitored by four independent level indicators and two level switches. There are three narrow range level indicators and a wide range level recorder. Alarms are provided from two of the level indicators and from the two level switches. PC-LI-13 is one of the three narrow range level indicators from torus level and does not provide an alarm. At the time of this occurrence, torus level was normal and all other indicators and alarms were functioning properly.

This occurrence presented no adverse consequences from the standpoint of public health and safety.

Corrective Action:

The instrument reference leg was backfilled. Level transmitter PC-LT-13 continued to stick at the full scale position so the transmitter was replaced. The proper valve to be used for obtaining a torus water sample has been tagged. The proper method for obtaining a torus water sample has been discussed with all chemistry technicians.

Sincerely,

L. C. Lessor
Station Superintendent
Cooper Nuclear Station

LCL:cg
Attach.