



Jersey Central Power & Light Company
Madison Avenue at Punch Bowl Road
Morristown, New Jersey 07960
(201) 455-8200

OYSTER CREEK NUCLEAR GENERATING STATION
Forked River, New Jersey 08731

Licensee Event Report
Reportable Occurrence No. 50-219/78-30/3L-0

Report Date

December 22, 1978

Occurrence Date

November 26, 1978

Identification of Occurrence

Failure of containment spray system II pump 51C to start during a system automatic actuation test. This event is considered to be a reportable occurrence as defined in the Technical Specifications, paragraph 6.9.2.b.2.

Conditions Prior to Occurrence

The plant was in a refueling shutdown.

Reactor mode switch in shutdown.
Source range monitors - 30 cps.
All control rods at 00.
Reactor water level - 165 inches.
Reactor coolant temperature - 160°F.

Description of Occurrence

On Sunday, November 26, 1978, containment spray system II pump 51C failed to start when a simulated high drywell pressure was applied to drywell pressure sensors. The failure occurred during the performance of the containment spray system automatic actuation test. On subsequent attempts to start the system, pump 51C started each time. The surveillance test was completed with no additional discrepancy items.

On Saturday, December 2, 1978, a similar failure occurred in containment spray system I when containment spray pump 51A failed to start during performance of the diesel generator automatic actuation test. In subsequent tests, there were no further pump breaker failures. Investigation indicates a similar problem with both pump motor power circuit breakers.

Apparent Cause of Occurrence

The apparent cause of the failure is attributed to greater than normal friction in the bearings for the trip bar in the circuit breaker for pump 51C.

Analysis of Occurrence

The containment spray system is provided to remove heat energy from the containment in the event of a loss-of-coolant accident. The flow from one pump in either loop is more than ample to provide the required heat removal capability. The loss of the operation of one of the four containment spray pumps is considered to have minimal safety significance.

Corrective Action

The circuit breakers for the affected containment spray pumps were disassembled and the trip bar bearings were cleaned and lubricated. As part of the critical corrective action, the outer two (2) trip bar bearings were disassembled/inspected and the bar rotated approximately 30° to check for greater than normal friction on the two (2) inner trip bar bearings. This trip bar rotation is limited to 30° by the latch mechanism.

Based on the preventative maintenance performed on the containment spray breakers during the 1978 outage, we consider the breakers fully operable. But to preclude the potential for a similar failure, all 460 V. containment spray pump breakers and core spray pump 460 V. breakers will be disassembled with all four (4) trip bar bearings removed to further insure that no greater than normal friction exist in any trip bar bearings. This will be completed by February 1, 1979. Additionally, the scope of the preventative maintenance program concerning these breakers will be amplified to require complete disassembly/inspection of all breaker trip bar bearings.

Failure Data

General Electric
Low voltage circuit breaker
Type AK-2A-50
Frame size 1500 amps
No. 20AA1392-214-CC