



ATTACHMENT TO LER  
No. 82-30/03 L-O

Commonwealth Edison Co.  
Zion Generating Station  
50-295

Description of Event: During steady state operation at 100% power on 9-19-82 at 1440 hours the "Pressurizer control level high low" alarm came in. At that time, the charging flow control valve (1FCV-121) was at 100% demand, charging flow was at 70 gpm, and letdown flow as at 100 gpm. 1FCV-121 was placed in manual and the demand increased, but no charging flow increase was noted. Letdown was switched to a 45 gpm orifice and 1FCV-121 was inspected locally. Pressurizer level stopped dropping, but it was decided to secure letdown. Charging at 70 gpm continued for 5 minutes until the operator noticed the aux. lube oil pump auto-starting for the 1B pump. The motor current jumped to 130 amps (normal running current = 60 amps) and charging flow dropped to zero. The 1B charging pump was manually tripped and 1A charging pump was started. Charging flow responded normally with 1A pump in operation. 1B charging pump was declared inoperable placing the unit in a degraded mode per Tech Spec 3.8.1.B.

Consequence of Occurrence: 1A charging pump was operable at the time when 1B charging pump was declared inoperable, therefore HHSI was available and the health and safety of the public were not adversely affected. 1B charging pump was repaired and declared operable within the period allowed for system limiting condition for operation.

Cause of Occurrence: Preliminary investigation showed that the failure occurred between the 10th and 11th stages in the split ring area. Preliminary investigation indicates this failure was attributed to fatigue. Charging pump shaft failures are a significant generic problem involving W supplied auxiliary nuclear pumps. The failed 1B pump incorporated the Westinghouse recommended 1150 °F shaft temper temperature as well as the two piece balance drum locknut. The 1150 °F heat treatment was recommended over

the original design (1000 °F) heat treatment to improve fracture toughness. The two piece balance drum locknut was recommended over the original design (1 piece) to more evenly distribute the load over all the locknut threads.

Previous Occurrences: There are no previous occurrences of this type at Zion Station.

Corrective Action: Immediate corrective action was to replace the rotating element. The normal periodic test was performed and the pump flow was found to be within an acceptable limit of the curve. This curve was for the 1B charging pump prior to rotating element replacement. Further action will be taken once the exact cause of shaft failure can be determined. Any further corrective action will be indicated in the follow-up report.