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On May 8, 1984, with the reactor operating at 100 percent power, monthly surveillance test 3PT-Ml (Nuclear Power Range) indicated a failure in Channel 41. Specifically, the f(delta-I) penalty on the overpower-overtemperature delta-T trip setpoints was smaller than required by the Technical Specifications for an indicated delta-flux of +54 percent. The power range instrumentation was readjusted such that the f(delta-I) margin returned to an acceptable value. This event was caused by instrument drift.

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ABSTRACT (Limit to 1400 spaces i.e., approximately fifteen single-space typewritten lines) (16)

NRC Form 366A (9-83)		
	LICENSEE EVENT REPORT (LER) TEXT CONTINUATION	

APPROVED OMB NO. 3150-0104

FACILITY NAME (1)	DOCKET NUMBER (2)	T	LER NUMBER (6)						PAGE (3)		
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TEXT IN more space is required, use additional NRC Form 366A's) (17)

On May 8, 1984, with the reactor operating at 100 percent power, monthly surveillance test 3PT-Ml (Nuclear Power Range) indicated a failure in Channel 41. Technical Specifications 2.3.1.B.(4) and 2.3.1.B.(5), which describe the trip setpoints for overtemperature and overpower delta-T respectively, include a penalty on these setpoints based upon the delta-I, or measured flux difference. For an indicated flux difference of +54 percent, a penalty of no less than 7.90 volts on the instrumentation is required. The measured penalty at this point was 7.64 volts, which is below the specified minimum. Therefore, this event is reportable under 10CFR50.73(a)(2)(i).

It should be noted, however, that under no circumstances would the plant ever be operable at this high a delta-flux. Not only does Technical Specifications 3.10.2.4 through 3.10.2.7 strictly control delta-flux limits, but the design of the cycle 4 core is such that a delta-flux of +54 percent as extremely unlikely. Furthermore, even taking the measured non-conservative reading into account, operation at a high delta-flux would produce a large enough f(delta-I) penalty to trip the reactor on overpower delta-T long before a reading of +54 percent was reached.

The remaining eleven test points gave acceptable results on the surveillance test. Channel 41 NIS static gain unit (Foxboro, Model No. DQ) was readjusted such that the f(delta-I) margin returned to an acceptable value. The event was caused by instrument drift.

Performance of the reactor was not affected by this incident. Similar events occurred on June 27, 1978 (LER 78-012/03L-0), September 28, 1977 (RO-77-3-16(B)), November 25, 1976 (RO-76-3-46(B)), November 30, 1976 (RO-76-3-43(B)) and October 29, 1976 (RO-76-3-42(B)). It should be noted that this is the first failure of this type in nearly six years.

Indian Point 3 Nuclear Power Plant P.O. Box 215 Buchanan, New York 10511 914 739.8200



June 6, 1984 IP-FWG-2554

Docket No. 50-286 License No. DPR-64

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

Dear Sir:

The attached Licensee Event Report LER 84-007-00 is hereby submitted in accordance with the requirements of 10CFR50.73. This event is of the type defined in Paragraph 50.73(a)(2)(i).

Very truly yours,

John C. Brons Resident Manager

FWG/bam Attachment

cc: Dr. Thomas Murley
Regional Administrator
Region 1
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
631 Park Avenue
King of Prussia, Pennsylvania 19406

Mr. Leroy W. Sinclair New York Power Authority 123 Main Street White Plains, New York 10601

IP3 Resident Inspectors' Office J. P. Bayne, WPO G. M. Wilverding (SRC), WPO

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TEX