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I. EVENT DESCRIPTION

On December 27, 1984, with LaSalle Unit 1 at 85% power, Turbine Control Valves (TA, TCV) Number 2 and Number 4 would not fast close the last 10% of travel during the performance of LOS-RP-M4, Turbine Control Monthly Surveillances. A TCV fast closure is needed to generate Reactor Protection System (RPS), (JC) and Recirculation Pump (AD) Trip (RPT) trip signals. The TCV fast closure trips to RPS channels B1 (TCV #2) and B2 (TCV #4) and RPT system were declared inoperable. In accordance with Technical Specification 3.3.1, the inoperable RFS and RPT trip systems were placed in the tripped condition. Work Requests L44802 and L44803 were written to investigate the problem. This report is being submitted voluntarily due to potential for a generic problem.

II. CAUSE

Troubleshooting under Work Requests L44802 and L44803 isolated the problem to limit switches CVTS-2 and CVTS-4 of TCV #2 and TCV #4, respectively.

Personnel inspecting the limit switch at TCV #2 found that the lever arm on CVTS-2 could not be moved manually. Limit switch CVTS-2 was removed and replaced with a new limit switch. Inspection of the faulty limit switch after removal showed that the switch had degraded due to a combination of heat and moisture.

Personnel inspecting the limit switch at TCV #4 found that the lever arm on CVTS-4 had fallen off. Limit switch CVTS-4 had just been replaced on November 26, 1984. Electrical Maintenance personnel indicated that they had securely tightened the limit switch lever arm when the new switch was installed on November 26. The tapered set screw that expands the limit switch's splined shaft to form a compression connection holding the lever arm in place was found to be securely tightened and the lever arm still fell off. Discussion of the problem with the manufacturer, Namco Controls, revealed that the company had experienced a tolerance problem with limit switch lever arm model #EL01053338 (S.I. #506H09). The problem was thad some lever arms were released that had splined holes with too large of an inside diameter.

Because of the tolerance problem the lever arm worked loose and fell off limit switca CVTS-4.

III. PROFABLE CONSEQUENCES OF THE OCCURRENCE

The (VTS limit switches on the control values are set so that contacts are closed from the 0 to 10% open value position. When the control value is in test and the CVTS limit switch contacts close, the value's fast closure solenoid energizes, porting off control fluid and fast closing the TCV. The reduction of control fluid pressure at the TCV causes a pressure switch to actuate which in turn causes RPS and RPT trips.

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III. PROBABLE CONSEQUENCES OF THE OCCURRENCE (Continued)

The probable consequences of this occurrence are minimal because the limit switches that were found inoperable provide valve test functions only. The fast closure solenoid of both TCV #2 and TCV #4 were operable. If there was an actual turbine trip condition or a power load unbalance, TCV #2 and TCV #4 would have fast closed per design. Control oil pressure switches that supply signals to RPS and RPT logic were operable at all times. Applicable RPS and RPT trips would have occurred on fast closure of TCV #2 or TCV #4. Safe plant operation was maintained at all times.

IV. CORRECTIVE ACTIONS

Limit switch CVTS-2 for TCV #2 was replaced under Work Request L44802. Under Work Request L44803 the arm on limit switch CVTS-4 for TCV #4 was replaced with a new lever arm and was fastened securely. LOS-RP-M4, Turbine Control Monthly Surveillances, was completed satisfactorily at 1200 hours on December 28, 1984.

A hold was placed on the remaining lever arms (S.I. #506H09) in stock under Discrepancy Record #01-85-031. Action Item Record #01-85-67003 was written to determine where Namco lever arms #EL01053338 (S.I. #506H09) have been installed as replacement parts prior to the hold date (1-11-85), to inspect the installed lever arms, and insure the inside diameter of the splined hole on the lever arms meets current manufacturer's specifications.

V. PREVIOUS OCCURRENCES

This is the first time that a problem with control valve limit switch arms falling off was reported. It is also the first time that a Turbine Control Valve limit switch failure due to heat and moisture degradation was reported.

VI. NAME AND TELEPHONE NUMBER OF PREPARER

Kenneth J. Kalmon, 815/357-6761, extension 325.



Commonwealth Edison LaSalle County Nuclear Station Rural Route #1, Box 220 Marseilles, Illinois 61341 Telephone 815/357-6761

February 7, 1985

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

Dear Sir:

Reportable Occurrence Report #84-094-00, Docket #050-373 is being submitted to your office in accordance with 10CFR 50.73.

R.D. Biskow

G. J. Diederich Superintendent LaSalle County Station

GJD/MLD/kg

Enclosure

xc: NRC, Regional Director INPO-Records Center File/NRC

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