

REGULATORY INFORMATION DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM (RIDS)

ACCESSION NBR:8005290493 DOC.DATE: 80/05/23 NOTARIZED: NO  
 FACIL:50-287 Oconee Nuclear Station, Unit 3, Duke Power Co.  
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 LEWIS,S.R. Duke Power Co.  
 RECIP.NAME: RECIPIENT AFFILIATION  
 Region 2, Atlanta, Office of the Director

DOCKET #  
 05000287

SUBJECT: LER 80-006/03L-0:on 800423,during heatup,borated water  
 storage tank level decreased below 46 ft.Caused by failure  
 of check valve to reseal following testing.Check valve will  
 be repaired.

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 TITLE: Incident Reports

NOTES:R.CAPRA - ICU. M. CUNNINGHAM - ALL AMENDS TO FSAR +  
CHANGES TO TECH SPECS.

ACTION:	RECIPIENT	COPIES		RECIPIENT	COPIES	
	ID CODE/NAME	LTR	ENCL		ID CODE/NAME	LTR
	05 BC ORB #4	4	4			
INTERNAL:	01 REG FILE	1	1	02 NRC PDR	1	1
	09 I&E	2	2	11 MPA	3	3
	15 NOVAK/KNIEL	1	1	16 EEB	1	1
	17 AD FOR ENGR	1	1	18 PLANT SYS BR	1	1
	19 I&C SYS BR	1	1	20 AD PLANT SYS	1	1
	22 REAC SAFT BR	1	1	23 ENGR BR	1	1
	24 KREGER	1	1	25 PWR SYS BR	1	1
	26 AD/SITE ANAL	1	1	27 OPERA LIC BR	1	1
	28 ACCIDENT ANALYS	1	1	29 AUX SYS BR	1	1
	AD/ORP-DOR	1	1	AEOD	10	10
	BERLINGER,C.	3	3	DOUG MAY-TERA	1	1
	HANAUER,S.	1	1	JORDAN,E./IE	1	1
EXTERNAL:	03 LPDR	1	1	04 NSIC	1	1
	29 ACRS	16	16			

MAY 30 1980

DUKE POWER COMPANY  
OCONEE UNIT 3

Report Number: RO-287/80-6

Report Date: May 23, 1980

Occurrence Date: April 23, 1980

Facility: Oconee 3, Seneca, South Carolina

Identification of Occurrence: BWST Unavailable Due to Low Level

Conditions Prior to Occurrence: Heatup; 420 psig, 288°F

Description of Occurrence:

On April 22, 1980, after performance of the Reactor Building Spray (RBS) Check Valve Functional Test, valve 3BS-9, the RBS pump B suction check valve, failed to reseal. This provided a flowpath from the borated water storage tank (BWST) to the letdown storage tank (LDST). At the time Oconee 3 was in a heatup mode. At 1828 the BWST Hi/Lo level alarm was received at a level of approximately 47.2 feet. Makeup from the spent fuel pool was initiated, and BWST level was increased to approximately 47.5 feet. At 0752 on April 23, 1980, BWST level decreased to below 46 feet. Oconee Nuclear Station Technical Specification 3.3.4 requires that the BWST be considered unavailable if level is below 46 feet. Makeup was again initiated, and BWST level was restored by 0920 on April 23.

Apparent Cause of Occurrence:

The cause for the decreasing BWST level was the failure of valve 3BS-9 to reseal following testing. However, after makeup flow was initiated it was not maintained until level reached 48.3 feet, at which point the low level alarm would have cleared. Thus, when the decreasing BWST level failed to be noted after initial makeup, no alarm sounded to alert operations personnel to the problem. At the shift turnover at 2400 on April 22, oncoming personnel were informed that the alarm has been received and that some makeup had been made. However, BWST level was not monitored closely, apparently due to preoccupation with start-up of the unit.

Analysis of Occurrence:

Technical Specification 3.3.4 requires that the BWST be considered unavailable if level falls below 46 feet. Technical Specification 3.2.2 requires that the BWST be restored to operability within one hour, or the unit be in cold shutdown within the following 36 hours. BWST level was restored within 1 1/2 hours after it was discovered to be low. In addition, the concentrated boric acid storage tank was available as a source of concentrated soluble boric acid. However, this incident constituted operation in a degraded mode permitted by a limiting condition for operation, and must be reported pursuant to Technical Specification 6.6.2.1b(2), although it was not considered to be significant with respect to safe operation and the health and safety of the public were not affected.

Corrective Action:

Valve 3BS-10, the RBS pump B suction valve, was cycled, allowing valve 3BS-9 to reseal. Steps have been taken to assure that valve 3BS-9 is repaired. Makeup from the spent fuel pool was maintained to restore BWST level. The BWST level alarm will be investigated to assure that it clears at the proper level. Operations personnel have been counselled regarding the need to monitor potential problems more closely and the importance of maintaining a complete log.

## LICENSEE EVENT REPORT

EXHIBIT A

CONTROL BLOCK: (1) (PLEASE PRINT OR TYPE ALL REQUIRED INFORMATION)

01 | S | C | N | E | E | 3 | 2 | 0 | 0 | - | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | - | 0 | 0 | 3 | 4 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 4 | 5  
7 8 9 14 15 25 26 30 37 CAT 58

CONT

01 | REPORT SOURCE | L | 6 | 0 | 5 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 8 | 7 | 7 | 0 | 4 | 2 | 3 | 8 | 0 | 8 | 0 | 5 | 2 | 3 | 8 | 0 | 9  
7 8 60 61 68 69 74 75 80

EVENT DESCRIPTION AND PROBABLE CONSEQUENCES (10)

02 | During heatup of Oconee 3 the BWST level decreased to below 46 feet, the  
03 | minimum level permitted by Technical Specification 3.3.4. Level was restored  
04 | within 1 1/2 hours, well within the time permitted. In addition, the CBAST  
05 | was available as a supply of concentrated soluble boric acid. Therefore, this  
06 | incident was not considered to be significant with respect to safe operation  
07 | and the health and safety of the public were not affected.

08 |

09 | SYSTEM CODE | S | F | 11 | CAUSE CODE | A | 12 | CAUSE SUBCODE | A | 13 | COMPONENT CODE | A | C | C | U | M | U | 14 | COMP. SUBCODE | Z | 15 | VALVE SUBCODE | Z | 16 |  
7 8 9 10 11 12 13 18 19 20  
17 | LER/RO REPORT NUMBER | 8 | 0 | 21 | EVENT YEAR | 8 | 0 | 22 | SEQUENTIAL REPORT NO. | 0 | 0 | 6 | 24 | OCCURRENCE CODE | 0 | 3 | 28 | REPORT TYPE | L | 30 | REVISION NO. | 0 | 32 |  
18 | ACTION TAKEN | X | 33 | FUTURE ACTION | B | 34 | EFFECT ON PLANT | Z | 35 | SHUTDOWN METHOD | Z | 36 | HOURS | 0 | 0 | 0 | 40 | ATTACHMENT SUBMITTED | Y | 41 | NPD-4 FORM SUB. | Y | 42 | PRIME COMP. SUPPLIER | Z | 43 | COMPONENT MANUFACTURER | Z | Z | Z | Z | 44 | 26 |

CAUSE DESCRIPTION AND CORRECTIVE ACTIONS (27)

10 | The level decreased due to the failure of a check valve to reseal following  
11 | testing. Makeup was initiated, but was not maintained sufficiently for the  
12 | low level alarm to clear. Level then decreased again, this time below the  
13 | minimum required level, before makeup was reinitiated. Operation's personnel  
14 | have been counselled and the check valve will be repaired.

15 | FACILITY STATUS | C | 28 | % POWER | 0 | 0 | 0 | 29 | OTHER STATUS | NA | 30 | METHOD OF DISCOVERY | A | 31 | DISCOVERY DESCRIPTION | Operator Observation | 32 |  
7 8 9 10 11 12 13 44 45 46 80

16 | ACTIVITY CONTENT RELEASED OF RELEASE | Z | 33 | Z | 34 | AMOUNT OF ACTIVITY | NA | 35 | LOCATION OF RELEASE | NA | 36 |  
7 8 9 10 11 44 45 80

17 | PERSONNEL EXPOSURES NUMBER | 0 | 0 | 0 | 37 | TYPE | Z | 38 | DESCRIPTION | NA | 39 |  
7 8 9 10 11 12 13 80

18 | PERSONNEL INJURIES NUMBER | 0 | 0 | 0 | 40 | DESCRIPTION | NA | 41 |  
7 8 9 10 11 12 80

19 | LOSS OF OR DAMAGE TO FACILITY TYPE | Z | 42 | DESCRIPTION | NA | 43 |  
7 8 9 10 11 12 80

20 | PUBLICITY ISSUED DESCRIPTION | N | 44 | NA | 45 | NRC USE ONLY  
7 8 9 10 11 12 68 69 80

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