

Nebraska Public Power District

COOPER NUCLEAR STATION
P.O. BOX 98, BROWNVILLE, NEBRASKA 68321
TELEPHONE (402) 825-3811

CNSS790599

November 21, 1979

Mr. K. V. Seyfrit
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Office of Inspection and Enforcement
Region IV
611 Ryan Plaza
Suite 1000
Arlington, Texas 76011

Dear Sir:

This report is submitted in accordance with Section 6.7.2.B.3 of the Technical Specifications for Cooper Nuclear Station and discusses a reportable occurrence that was discovered on October 26, 1979. A licensee event report form is also enclosed.

Report No.: 50-298-79-32
Report Date: November 21, 1979
Occurrence Date: October 26, 1979
Facility: Cooper Nuclear Station
Brownville, Nebraska 68321

Identification of Occurrence:

An observed inadequacy in the implementation of an administrative or procedural control required by Technical Specification 3.19.A.

Conditions Prior to Occurrence:

The reactor was at steady state power level of approximately 99% of rated thermal power.

Description of Occurrence:

Technical Specification 3.19A was not met. While working on pipe hanger modifications in the High Pressure Coolant Injection (HPCI) and Residual Heat Removal (RHR) "B" & "D" pump rooms, the fire doors to the stairway were left open and no fire watch was established.

Designation of Apparent Cause of Occurrence:

Mechanical maintenance personnel error in leaving the rooms without closing the doors.

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Analysis of Occurrence:

The reinforced concrete wall and doors between the HPCI and RHR "B" & "D" pump rooms and the stairway form a 1½ hour rated fire barrier. In case of a fire in one room with the door open, smoke and flame could enter the stairway making it more difficult to extinguish the fire. A fire in either room would probably be detected by the temperature sensors in steam leak detection alerting the control room operator of a problem or by operator observation.

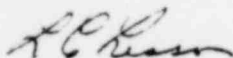
This occurrence presented no adverse affect upon public health and safety.

Corrective Action:

The open doors were immediately closed. This occurrence has been discussed directly with the personnel involved in leaving the doors open. A copy of this LER will be routed to all mechanical maintenance personnel.

Additionally, all fire doors controlled by Administrative Procedure 1.4.16 have been identified with a sign on each side of the door.

Sincerely,



L. C. Lessor
Station Superintendent
Cooper Nuclear Station

LCL:cg
Attach.

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