

ALABAMA POWER COMPANY
JOSEPH M. FARLEY NUCLEAR PLANT
DOCKET NO. 50-348
ATTACHMENT TO LER 78-088/03L-1

Facility: Joseph M. Farley Unit 1

Report Date: 7/9/79

Event Date: 11/25/78

Identification of Event:

Train A River Water Pumps could not be started from the Control Room.

Conditions Prior to Event:

The unit was in Mode 1 (100% power).

Description of Event:

At 0625 on 11/25/78 Train A River Water (RW) Pumps were observed to be in a tripped condition and could not be started from the Control Room. The pumps could be operated in local control. T/S 3.7.5 requires both R.W. loops operable. The Train A RW pumps were returned to an operable status at 0726 on 11/25/78. T/S 3.7.5 action statement requirements were met. The Train B RW pumps were operable.

Designation of Apparent Cause:

Immediately prior to this incident one Train A RW pump was in "Run", the other two pumps were in "Auto". Service pond level switch, LS-511 (Upper Limit Switch), was actuated on a high level. When the pond level dropped, the upper switch did not clear and the pumps were prevented from starting when the low level switch was actuated. This also caused the running river water pump to trip.

An investigation determined that the failure of LS-511 was apparently caused by moisture accumulation in the switch box.

Analysis of Event:

Service pond level switch, LS-511, starts the Train A RW pumps when in "Auto" in order to maintain the service pond level. The service pond level was within Tech. Spec. limits at the time of the occurrence, also the Train B River Water pumps were operable. The Train A River water pumps were restored to an operable status within the time limits specified in Tech. Spec. 3.7.5. The health and safety of the general public were not affected by this occurrence.

Corrective Action:

- A. A test procedure was developed and performed in an attempt to simulate the conditions reported in this LER. The results of this test were inconclusive. However, further investigation determined that the LS-511 fault was caused by moisture accumulation in the switch box. Crouse-Hinds conduit sealing fittings have been installed on the LS-511 switchbox to prevent water accumulation.
- B. Delaval-Gems, series L5-800 level switches have been installed to replace the Robershaw Controls Company Leveloc switch Model No. SL-416-B1 on LS-511.
- C. A design change has been implemented which will allow the pond low level switch to override the high level switch should both actuate simultaneously.

Failure Data:

Previous failures of LS-511 were reported in LER's 77-018/03L-0, 77-019/03L-0, 77-044/03L-0, 77-058/03L-0, 78-005/03L-0, and 78-053/03I-0.