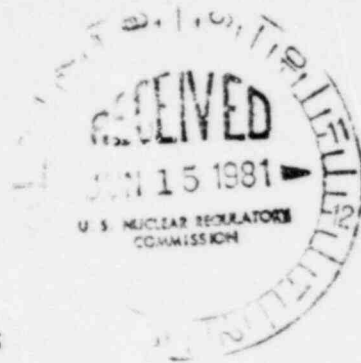


THE  
CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY  
OF AMERICA  
WASHINGTON D.C. 20064



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OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR OF INFORMATION SYSTEMS AND PLANNING  
202 635-5212

June 5, 1981

Mr. Boyce H. Grier, Director  
US Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Region I  
631 Park Avenue  
King of Prussia, Pennsylvania 19406

Subject: Catholic University of America AGN-201 Reactor (License No. R-31,  
Docket No. 50-77), Reportable Occurrence Event of June 4, 1981

Dear Mr. Grier:

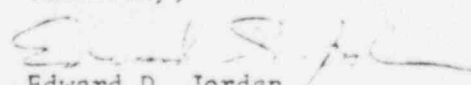
In accordance with our approved NRC technical specifications, I informed your office via telephone on June 5, 1981 of an occurrence which was observed on June 4, 1981. During the performance of a routine surveillance check on June 4, 1981 it was observed that the shield tank water temperature automatic interlock system was set to trip at a temperature lower than 10°C. It had apparently been in this condition since the last surveillance check performed on January 15, 1981. During this time interval, the reactor was operated a total of 11 times. However, during this time interval, the shield tank water temperature was never lower than 21.5°C as measured by the reactor thermometer. Therefore, the reactor was never operated in violation of any Limiting Conditions for Operation.

The reason for the thermo-switch being in the decalibrated condition appears to be a result of a faulty calibration procedure. In the ANG-201 Reactor thermo-switch, there are two set screws. One screw serves the purpose of calibration, and the other is a locking set screw. On January 15, 1981, the trip point temperature was changed from 18.2°C to 15.5°C. After calibration to this lower temperature, the calibration set screw was locked into place, and the thermo-switch placed back into its holder. It appears that in the process of locking the calibration set screw, it became decalibrated due to a small amount of rotation. This decalibration motion can be easily prevented by holding the calibration set screw as the locking set screw is turned.

Steps have been taken to prevent the recurrence of this particular problem. The calibration procedure will be modified in two ways:

1. The calibration set screw will be held in place when being locked, and
2. The calibration will be tested again after the calibration set screw has been locked.

Sincerely,

  
Edward D. Jordan  
Reactor Administrator

IE22  
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5. 8106160621

cc: To attached list

Dr. Edmund D. Pellegrino  
President

Dr. John J. Murphy  
Provost

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University Counsel

Dr. Andrew G. Favret, Acting Dean  
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