

DUKE POWER COMPANY
POWER BUILDING
422 SOUTH CHURCH STREET, CHARLOTTE, N. C. 28242

WILLIAM O. PARKER, JR.
VICE PRESIDENT
STEAM PRODUCTION

May 1, 1981

USNRC REGION II
ATLANTA, GEORGIA
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TELEPHONE: AREA 704
373-4083

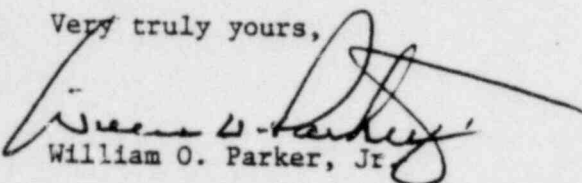
Mr. James P. O'Reilly, Director
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Region II
101 Marietta Street, Suite 3100
Atlanta, Georgia 30303

Re: McGuire Nuclear Station Unit 1
Docket No. 50-369

Dear Mr. O'Reilly:

Please find attached Reportable Occurrence Report RO-369/81-39. This report concerns the power operated relief valve INC-34 being declared inoperable. This incident was considered to be of no significance with respect to the health and safety of the public.

Very truly yours,


William O. Parker, Jr.

RWO:pw
Attachment

cc: Director
Office of Management and Program Analysis
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, D.C. 20555

Mr. Bill Lavallee
Nuclear Safety Analysis Center
Post Office Box 10412
Palo Alto, California 94303



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McGUIRE NUCLEAR STATION
INCIDENT REPORT

Report Number: 81-39

Report Date: April 24, 1981

Occurrence Date: April 3, 1981

Facility: McGuire Unit 1, Cornelius, N.C.

Identification of Occurrence: Power operated relief valve (PORV), INC34A was declared inoperable.

Condition Prior to Occurrence: Mode 5

Description of Occurrence: On April 3, 1981 at 2257 hours, PORV INC34A was lifting while in automatic. Its associated block valve (located in series), INC33A, was closed. Thus, INC34A became inoperable. This constituted a degraded mode of operation as stated in Technical Specification 3.4.10.3.

Apparent Cause of Occurrence: Reactor Coolant System pressure was being maintained at 355 psig. The low pressure setpoint for the PORV was 395 psig. However, because the setpoint range for the PORV is 0-3000 psig, it is very difficult to set it exactly. I&E personnel indicated that a 30 psi range is the best accuracy reasonably achievable. The actual setpoint was apparently set on the low side.

Analysis of Occurrence: The PORV can be set to lift at 395 psig. This provides Reactor Coolant System protection during low temperature (<300°F), water solid operation. Only one PORV is required, however, both INC32B and INC34A are equipped with the low pressure setpoint so as to provide redundant protection. When INC34A lifted, operators closed the associated block valve. Pressure was reduced from 355 psig to 340 psig. This returned the valve to an operable status and no further problems were experienced.

Corrective Action: After PORV INC34A lifted, its associated block valve, INC33A was closed. System pressure was reduced and the block valve was re-opened. The PORV was declared operable again at 2348 hours.

Safety Analysis: During the time INC34A was inoperable, INC32B was still available for operation. It is a 100% redundant valve so the health and safety of the public were not affected.