



Nebraska Public Power District

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

LER
50-298/81-14

CNSS817077

June 24, 1981

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



Dear Sir:

This report is submitted in accordance with Section 6.7.B.2 of the Technical Specifications for Cooper Nuclear Station and discusses a reportable occurrence that was discovered on June 8, 1981. A licensee event report form is also enclosed.

Report No.: 50-298-81-14
Report Date: June 24, 1981
Occurrence Date: June 8, 1981
Facility: Cooper Nuclear Station
Brownville, Nebraska 68321

Identification of Occurrence:

A condition occurred which resulted in operation in a degraded mode permitted by the limiting condition for operation established in Section 3.5.C.2 of the Technical Specifications.

Conditions Prior to Occurrence:

The reactor was operating at 23% of rated thermal power during a startup from refueling.

Description of Occurrence:

The HPCI pump turbine tripped prior to reaching rated speed and flow.

Designation of Apparent Cause of Occurrence:

The apparent cause of the occurrence was procedural inadequacy.

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Analysis of Occurrence:

The HPCI system is designed to provide a source of high pressure water make-up to the reactor in the event of a small-line break in the nuclear process system boundary.

During routine surveillance testing the HPCI pump turbine tripped prior to reaching rated system flow. Investigation indicated the overspeed trip mechanism was causing the turbine trip. The oil supply to the trip unit was found to be at higher pressure than recommended by the vendor (Terry Steam Turbine). This occurred because the system valve line-up (Operating Procedure 2.2.33) indicated that the oil supply valve should be "OPEN" when in fact the supply valve should be throttled to maintain approximately 20 psig to the trip unit. The excess oil pressure was tripping the turbine before it could attain rated speeds.

The HPCI system was inoperative for 53.4 hours. During this time the redundant system, ADS, was operable as were RCIC and LPCI systems. This occurrence had no adverse effect on the public health and safety. This event is not repetitive.

Corrective Action:

The trip unit oil supply valve was throttled to maintain 20 psig to the unit. The HPCI system was tested and performed satisfactorily. The Operating Procedure was revised to indicate that the supply valve should be throttled. No further action is planned.

Sincerely,



L. C. Lessor
Station Superintendent
Cooper Nuclear Station

LCL:cg