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SOUTH CAROLINA ELECTRIC & GAS COMPANY

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O. W. DIXON, JR.
VICE PRESIDENT
NUCLEAR OPERATIONS

July 8, 1983

Mr. James P. O'Reilly
Regional Administrator
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Region II, Suite 2900
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Atlanta, Georgia 30303

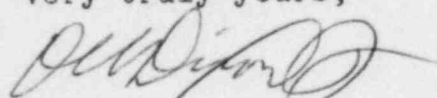
SUBJECT: Virgil C. Summer Nuclear Station
Docket No. 50/395
Operating License No. NPF-12
Thirty Day Written Report
LER 83-059

Dear Mr. O'Reilly:

Please find attached Licensee Event Report #83-059 for Virgil C. Summer Nuclear Station. This Thirty Day Report is required by Technical Specification 6.9.1.13.(b) as a result of entry into Action Statement 16 of Technical Specification 3.3.2, "Engineered Safety Feature Actuation System Instrumentation," and Action Statement (a) of Technical Specification 3.3.3.6, "Accident Monitoring Instrumentation," on June 9 and July 2, 1983.

Should there be any questions, please call us at your convenience.

Very truly yours,



O. W. Dixon, Jr.

CJM.OWD/dwf
Attachment

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Mr. James P. O'Reilly
LER No. 83-059
Page Two
July 8, 1983

EVENT DESCRIPTION AND PROBABLE CONSEQUENCES

On June 9, 1983, with the Plant in Mode 1, Refueling Water Storage Tank (RWST) Level Transmitter LT-990 failed high. The instrumentation channel was declared inoperable at 1729 hours and placed in the bypassed condition within one (1) hour in compliance with Action Statement 16 of Technical Specification 3.3.2 (Table 3.3-3, Item 8.a). Additionally, LT-990 is a Post Accident Monitoring System (PAMS) Instrument, and Action Statement (a) of Technical Specification 3.3.3.6 also applied.

A similar failure occurred to this instrumentation channel on July 2, 1983, at 1550 hours. The channel was not placed in the bypassed condition for this event since a return to operable status was made in less than one (1) hour. The licensee believes that both events were a result of the same component failure.

There were no adverse consequences during either event since the remaining three (3) channels of RWST level instrumentation remained operable.

CAUSE AND CORRECTIVE ACTIONS

The initial investigation performed by maintenance personnel isolated the failure to RWST Level Transmitter LT-990. The transmitter output, as measured in the instrumentation cabinet, had failed high.

The cause of the failure on June 9 and July 2 has been determined to be the result of an intermittent internal component breakdown in the level transmitter. The transmitter location is adjacent to the RWST in an insulated enclosure which provides freeze protection during the winter months. When exposed to direct sunlight, the internal ambient temperature of the enclosure exceeds 100°F, and the transmitter intermittently fails high.

On June 9, 1983, the operation of LT-990 returned to normal after the transmitter cooled. A calibration performed on the transmitter verified that the response was satisfactory. The channel was subsequently declared operable at 0945 hours on June 11, 1983, after the completion of a Channel Operational Test.

Mr. James P. O'Reilly
LER No. 83-059
Page Three
July 8, 1983

CAUSE AND CORRECTIVE ACTIONS Continued

On July 2, 1983, the cover for the enclosure was removed after the failure at 1550 hours, and the transmitter again returned to normal operation when the temperature decreased. LT-990 was declared operable at 1640 hours upon the completion of a satisfactory Channel Check.

The licensee is performing the following actions to prevent a recurrence of this failure:

1. The bottom cover for the enclosure has been temporarily removed to prevent the temperature rise from affecting the transmitter.
2. A modification is being processed to install a permanent weather shield over the transmitter. The modification is expected to be complete by July 15, 1983.
3. Transmitter LT-990 has been scheduled for replacement. The exact time for this replacement is dependent upon receipt of a spare transmitter presently at the manufacturer for repair.