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DUKE POWER

October 30, 1991

U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
ATTN: Document Control Desk
Washington, D.C. 20555

Subject: McGuire Nuclear Station
Docket Nos. 50-369, -370
Inspection Report No. 50-369, -370/91-21
Reply to a Notice of Violation


Gentlemen:

Pursuant to 10 CFR 2.201, please find attached Duke Power Company's response to Violation 50-369, -370/91-21-02 for McGuire Nuclear Station.

During the exit for Inspection Report 50-369, -370/91-22 on October 21, 1991, McGuire was informed of a second example of Violation 50-370/91-21-01. The NRC has requested that the response for this violation also address the second example of the violation. In order to allow sufficient time to respond to both examples of this violation, we request to delay this response until thirty days after the date of issuance of Inspection Report 91-22.

Should there be any questions concerning this matter, contact L.J. Rudy at (704) 373-3413.

Very truly yours,


M.S. Tuckman

LJR/s

Attachment

xc (W/Attachment):
S.D. Ebnetter
Regional Administrator, Region II

T.A. Reed, ONRR

P.K. VanDoorn
Senior Resident Inspector

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MCGUIRE NUCLEAR STATION
RESPONSE TO NOTICE OF VIOLATION

Violation 369,370/91-21-02

Technical Specification 6.8.1.a requires written procedures to be established, implemented, and maintained covering the applicable procedures recommended in Appendix A of Regulatory Guide 1.33, Revision 2, February 1978, which includes procedures for mispositioned control rods.

Contrary to the above, on July 13, 1991, procedures AP/1 and 2/A/5500/14, Rod Control Malfunction, were inadequate in that the case whereby misaligned rods were unable to be moved was not covered.

This is a Severity Level IV Violation (Supplement 1).

Response

1. The reason for the violation, or, if contested, the basis for disputing the violation:

The procedure in effect on date of event did address the case when a control rod would not move. The guidance specified following Technical Specifications (TS) in this case. One option the applicable TS (3.1.3.1) requires is: "...the remainder of the rods in the group with the inoperable rod are aligned to within 12 steps of the inoperable rod while maintaining the rod sequence and insertion limits of TS 3.1.3.6...".

The operators followed the action specified in the Abnormal procedure. The detail on how to move the operable rods without affecting the inoperable rod was not included in the procedure, but the operators had no problem completing the required actions. While this added detail would have been helpful, the step specifying the required action was not missing.

The procedure specified following the TS action statement. In this case, it would have been appropriate to repeat TS action statements in the procedure, and to give addition level of detail. The operators knew by training how to complete the high level step. We agree with the NRC that the procedure would have been improved with added level of detail to support the high level step.

The detail on how to move the operable rods without affecting the inoperable rods existed in AP/1/A/5500/14, Rod Control Malfunction, prior to 4-5-82. A procedure rewrite issued on this date deleted this detail, but still addressed the case when a misaligned rod will not move. Personnel involved in this rewrite could not recall why this detail was deleted. It is speculated that this detail was deleted because TS give several options if inoperable rod cannot be moved (not just moving operable rods to inoperable rod position). The other options may be more appropriate (action statement 3.1.3.1.c.3) depending on position of inoperable rod. (The procedure actually specified one of the actions covered under 3.1.3.1.c.3 (calculating shutdown margin).)

2. The corrective steps that have been taken and the results achieved:

None

3. The corrective steps that will be taken to avoid further violations:
 - a. AP/1(2)/A/5500/14, Rod Control Malfunctions, will be reviewed and detail will be added back on how to move operable rods without affecting inoperable rods.
 - b. Additional guidance will be given to operators on how to handle situations where actions must be taken that go beyond the level of detail that exists in procedure (or outside the scope of the procedure).
4. The date when full compliance will be achieved:

McGuire will be in full compliance on 12/30/91.