

Alabama Power Company  
J. M. Farley Nuclear Plant  
P. O. Drawer 470  
Ashford, Alabama 36312  
Telephone 205 899-5156  
FNP-83-1348



DEC 29 12:32 Alabama Power  
the southern electric system

December 27, 1983

Mr. J. P. O'Reilly, Director  
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
101 Marietta Street, N. W.  
Suite 3100  
Atlanta, Georgia 30303

Dear Mr. O'Reilly:

This is to confirm the telephone calls to Mr. Gould (NRC duty officer, Bethesda) at 1335 on December 25, 1983 and to Mr. Butcher (NRC) at 0930 on December 27, 1983 by Mr. D. N. Morey (APCO) in accordance with Unit 1 and 2 Technical Specification 3.7.11.1.

Fire Protection Tank A and B levels fell to approximately 232,000 gallons each at 2017 on 12/24/83 due to an inadvertent actuation of the fire protection deluge system on cooling tower 1C. Technical Specifications require a minimum tank level of 250,000 gallons. A backup fire suppression system was established by 1810 on 12/25/83 and both tank levels were returned to minimum acceptable Technical Specification levels by 2110 on 12/25/83.

This event occurred due to extreme cold, which caused the 1C cooling tower's fire protection system to fail, thereby deluging the tower.

While taking the 2000 readings on 12/26/83, the system operator found the levels of Fire Protection Tanks A and B to be 25.5 feet. Technical Specifications require a minimum tank level of 250,000 gallons (26 feet). The tank levels were returned to minimum acceptable Technical Specification levels at 2110 on 12/26/83.

This event occurred because the system operator assigned responsibility for keeping the Fire Protection Tanks filled did not take timely action to maintain minimum level in the tanks. The Fire Protection Tanks were being manually filled due to the extreme cold conditions.

Further details will be provided in the followup report.

Sincerely yours,

W. G. Hairston, III

WGH/MKG:rhk

cc: H. O. Thrash  
W. G. Ware  
D. N. Morey  
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