

Jersey Central Power & Light Company



MADISON AVENUE AT PUNCH BOWL ROAD • MORRISTOWN, N. J. 07960 • 539-6111

August 11, 1972



Mr. A. Giambusso
Deputy Director for Reactor Projects
Directorate of Licensing
United States Atomic Energy Commission
Washington, D. C. 20545

Dear Mr. Giambusso:

Subject: Oyster Creek Station
Docket No. 50-219
Surveillance Failure

The purpose of this letter is to advise you that on August 4, 1972 during routine surveillance, an isolation condenser steam line high flow differential pressure instrument failed to trip at the normal trip point.

After disassembly and investigation, it was concluded that the torque tube preload had been lost due to insufficient torque tube locknut friction. This changed the torque tube position, which, in turn, prevented the tube from transmitting motion to the indicating and switch linkage when pressure was applied to the switch.

The A isolation condenser was placed in a tripped condition as required in Table 3.1.1.h of the Technical Specifications and a new bellows assembly was installed in the switch after which it was tested several times for proper operation at its normal trip point. The bellows assembly has been adjusted and tested satisfactorily at the proper setting.

Since the switch that failed is backed up by a redundant switch, which also senses high flow in the steam line, and two switches in the isolation condenser condensate return line, which perform the same function, the isolation condenser would have been automatically isolated in the case of an actual break. The second isolation condenser was fully operable during this surveillance testing and maintenance so there is no safety significance to this event.

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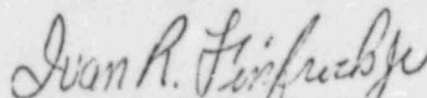
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In light of this unanticipated loss of preload on the torque tube, surveillance procedure changes are being considered which will check the torque tubes on other switches routinely.

We are enclosing forty copies of this letter.

Very truly yours,



Ivan R. Finfrock, Jr.
Manager, Nuclear Generating Stations

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Enclosures

cc: Mr. J. P. O'Reilly, Director
Regulatory Operations