



February 15, 1974



Mr. John F. O'Leary, Director
Directorate of Licensing
Office of Regulation
U.S. Atomic Energy Commission
Washington, D. C. 20545

Dear Mr. O'Leary:

ABNORMAL OCCURRENCE NO. 250-74-2

FEBRUARY 15, 1974

OCCURRENCE DATE: FEBRUARY 5, 1974

TURKEY POINT UNIT NO. 3

FAILURE OF NO. 3A SAFETY INJECTION PUMP TO START

A. Conditions Prior to Occurrence

Unit No. 3 Reactor was operating at steady-state conditions of approximately 60% reactor power.

B. Description of the Occurrence

At approximately 3:15 PM on February 5, 1974, the reactor operator noted that No. 3B accumulator level was approaching the lower end of the desired operating band. He selected No. 3A Safety Injection Pump to add borated water to the accumulators. When he turned the control switch to the ON position, to start the pump, the control room indicators of motor current, system flow, and system pressure remained at zero, indicating that No. 3A Safety Injection Pump did not start. Immediate investigation by plant personnel revealed that No. 3A Safety Injection pump motor circuit breaker was in an intermediate position and was not closed.

C. Cause of the Occurrence

Visual inspection of No. 3A Safety Injection Pump motor circuit breaker showed that the closing spring mechanical indicator was in an intermediate position. No other abnormal conditions were found.

The circuit breaker was then placed in the racked out position. The circuit breaker closing spring charging motor was tested and demonstrated satisfactory performance. This test was repeated five times and identical results were obtained.

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The circuit breaker was placed in the racked in position and No. 3A Safety Injection Pump was then started and demonstrated satisfactory performance.

Evaluation of the results of the visual inspection, the tests of the closing spring charging motor, and the successful start of No. 3A Safety Injection Pump concluded that the failure to start was caused by an insufficient charge on the circuit breaker closing spring.

D. Analysis of Occurrence

At the time of the occurrence, the accumulator levels were within specified operating limits. Manual starting of No. 3A Safety Injection Pump was acceptable and there were no safety related requirements for operation of a safety injection pump when this incident occurred.

If operation of the Engineered Safeguards System had required automatic operation of safety injection pumps during the time No. 3A Safety Injection Pump was inoperable, the other three safety injection pumps were operable. The Safety Analyses presented in the Turkey Point Unit Nos. 3 and 4 Final Safety Analysis Report assume that only two safety injection pumps operate during the incident analyzed.

Technical Specifications for the facility provide for continuing to operate at power with three safety injection pumps operable for periods up to 30 days. Therefore, the failure of No. 3A Safety Injection Pump did not adversely affect the safe operation of Turkey Point Unit No. 3 and did not present any danger to the public health or safety.

E. Corrective Action

The immediate corrective action taken was to test No. 3A Safety Injection Pump motor circuit breaker closing spring charging mechanism, demonstrate satisfactory circuit breaker operation, and return the circuit breaker to service.

To prevent repetition of this and similar instances in the future, procedures have been established which provide for a daily visual inspection of Engineered Safeguards System equipment circuit breakers. This inspection will include verification that electrical power is available to operate the circuit breaker closing spring charging motor and that the mechanical indicator shows that the closing spring is fully charged.

Mr. John F. O'Leary

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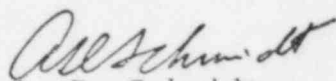
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F. Failure Data

This is the first failure of this type experienced on Turkey Point Unit Nos. 3 and 4 circuit breakers.

No. 3A Safety Injection Pump motor circuit breaker was manufactured by General Electric Company. The air circuit breaker is type AM-4, 16-350, rated at 1200 A.

Very truly yours,



A. D. Schmidt
Director of Power Resources

VTC:df

cc: Mr. Norman C. Moseley, Director Region II
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