



ROCHESTER GAS AND ELECTRIC CORPORATION • 89 EAST AVENUE, ROCHESTER, N.Y. 14649

KEITH W. AMISH
SENIOR VICE PRESIDENT
ELECTRIC AND STEAM

TELEPHONE
AREA CODE 716 546-2700

June 7, 1974

Mr. James P. O'Reilly, Director
Directorate of Regulatory Operations
Region I
U. S. Atomic Energy Commission
631 Park Avenue
King of Prussia, Pennsylvania 19406

Subject: Unusual Event - Malfunction of the A and the B Motor
Driven Auxiliary Feedwater Pump's Discharge Valves
R. E. Ginna Nuclear Power Plant, Unit No. 1
Docket No. 50-244

Dear Mr. O'Reilly:

In accordance with Ginna Station Technical Specifications, Section 6.6.2, Item b-2 which requires that "discovery of any substantial variance from performance specifications contained in the Technical Specifications or in the Safety Analysis Report" shall be submitted in the form of a written report within 30 days to the Director of the Regional Regulatory Operations office, the following is presented:

During the performance of monthly surveillance procedure PT 16, "Auxiliary Feedwater System Flow Check" on May 9, 1974 it was noted that, after the auxiliary feedwater pumps had started and that the valves had opened normally, very little flow reduction subsequently occurred to indicate that the normal throttling sequence had been initiated. The flow for the 1A pump remained at approximately 275 gpm and for the 1B pump at approximately 264 gpm; normal flow is automatically adjusted to under 230 gpm for each pump, after the closing circuit has been established. In accordance with the procedure, the discharge flows were manually adjusted locally to about 200 gpm to acquire test data.

Instrument repair personnel inspected the instrumentation and bistables associated with the motor operated discharge valve for each pump. Adjustments were made to the setpoints of the flow bistables in the closing circuit for each valve to determine response of the valves. As the setpoints were reduced proper valve response was verified. The settings have been reduced such that the resulting final flow rate for each pump is 210 gpm to insure proper flow reduction below 230 gpm is achieved.

The discharge valves are equipped with selector switches at the main control board and manual control of the valves may be assumed by the operators if

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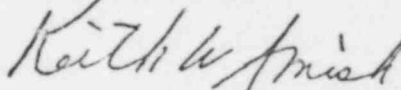
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DATE June 7, 1974
TO Mr. James P. O'Reilly

the valve does not throttle closed when required. The operators are accustomed to controlling auxiliary feedwater pump discharge valves manually during unit startups, shutdowns, maintaining hot shutdown, and cooldowns. In doing so, they are familiar with restricting continuous flow to less than 230 gpm for each pump. In addition, in the case of an automatic start of these pumps they are charged with verifying and achieving the proper discharge flow rates. Further, a review of plant procedures is being made to insure that appropriate guidance is included.

The failure of the valves to throttle closed is an isolated occurrence as this was the first such occurrence. No explanation for the malfunction is readily apparent since the bistable settings on May 9, 1974 should not have changed from the previous performance of PT 16 on April 9, 1974. In order to insure that this is an isolated occurrence, and to acquire more extensive data for evaluating the performance of this system, the frequency of surveillance testing of the valves has been increased to weekly, and flow bistable current values and dial settings are to be recorded. As of June 6, 1974, each pump has been started six times. Satisfactory valve action was observed each time. Weekly surveillance will continue until confidence is acquired that the incident was not a result of an inadequacy in system design.

Very truly yours,



Keith W. Amish