

August 26, 1970

Dr. Peter A. Morris, Director
Division of Reactor Licensing
U.S. Atomic Energy Commission
7920 Norfolk Avenue
Bethesda, Maryland 20014



Dear Dr. Morris:

Subject: R. E. Ginna Nuclear Power Plant Unit No. 1
Docket No. 50-244
Report of Abnormal Occurrence Observed on
August 18, 1970 (Technical Specification 15.6.6)

On Tuesday, August 18, 1970 at approximately 1500 hours, periodic testing involving reactor system channel III of the overpower Delta T trip protection began. Prior to testing, this channel was placed in the trip mode.

At approximately 1533 hours, the overpower rod stop and reactor trip bistable TC 407A/B was found to be faulty. Immediate replacement of the bistable began, and the channel was returned to service at 1800 hours.

On August 19, 1970, further investigation revealed that the faulty bistable would result in a reactor trip set point, for stable conditions, in excess of that described in Section 2.3.1.2.e of the Technical Specifications, Limiting Safety System Settings, Protection Instrumentation. It was therefore concluded that for some length of time between July 30, 1970, the date of the last test, and August 18, 1970, the trip set point on this one channel was exceeded.

In compliance, therefore, with our interpretation of Section 6.2 of the Technical Specifications and the definition of abnormal occurrence (Section 1.8), this item was reported as an abnormal occurrence.

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Mr. Norm Mosely of the AEC Compliance in Newark, New Jersey was notified immediately and a telegram sent to Mr. R. W. Kirkman, Director - Region I, Division of Compliance.

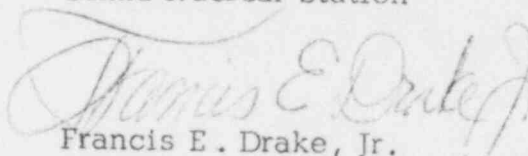
The Plant Operating Review Committee has also met and reviewed this occurrence.

Failure was caused by a malfunctioning zener diode in the regulated power supply. Examination of our start-up and testing experience, and a review of the manufacturer's tests of bistable TC 407A/B show this to be the only incident of this type of failure. In addition, a review of our present testing frequency of electronic protection equipment confirms our testing program to be satisfactory for maintaining overall reliability.

Very truly yours,



C. E. Platt, Superintendent
Ginna Nuclear Station



Francis E. Drake, Jr.
Chairman of the Board