

TENNESSEE VALLEY AUTHORITY
CHATTANOOGA, TENNESSEE
37401



August 9, 1974



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

Dear Mr. O'Leary:

TENNESSEE VALLEY AUTHORITY - BROWNS FERRY NUCLEAR PLANT UNIT 2 -
DOCKET NO. 50-260 - FACILITY OPERATING LICENSE DPR-52 - ABNORMAL
OCCURRENCE REPORT BFAO-50-260/741W

The enclosed report is to provide details concerning 11 of 14 seismic restraints used to support the Yarway water columns on the reactor pressure vessel which were found in an inoperative condition on July 30, 1974, and is submitted in accordance with Appendix A to Regulatory Guide 1.16, Revision 1, October 1973.

Very truly yours,

TENNESSEE VALLEY AUTHORITY

E. F. Thomas
Director of Power Production

Enclosure

CC (Enclosure):

Mr. Norman C. Moseley, Director
Region II Regulatory Operations Office, USAEC
230 Peachtree Street, NW., Suite 818
Atlanta, Georgia 30303

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ABNORMAL OCCURRENCE REPORT

Report No.: BFAO-50-260/741W
Report Date: August 9, 1974
Occurrence Date: July 30, 1974
Facility: Browns Ferry Nuclear Plant unit 2

Identification of Occurrence

On July 30, 1974, 11 of 14 seismic restraints used to support the Yarway water columns on the reactor pressure vessel were found in an inoperative condition.

Conditions Prior to Occurrence

The reactor was shut down and preparations were under way for initial nuclear heatup.

Description of Occurrence

While correcting an interference problem that was discovered during the performance of startup test, STI-17, a seismic restraint on one of the RPV Yarway columns was noticed to be extended too far. When this seismic restraint was taken loose for correction, it was found to be seized. A check was then made of the new Yarway column seismic restraints in the warehouse and it was found that 5 out of 14 were either seized or would not retract after being extended. All of the seismic restraints in unit 2 were then checked and it was found that 11 out of 14 were inoperative.

Designation of Apparent Cause of Occurrence

An inspection of both the old and new seismic restraints for the Yarway column revealed that the restraints were not lubricated during assembly at the factory.

Analysis of Occurrence

The fact that these restraints were seized presented no safety problem. With the Yarway column seismic restraints seized, the Yarway column could have withstood a minimum of 300 cycles from hot to cold or cold to hot without failure.

Corrective Action

Fourteen new seismic restraints were obtained from the factory and installed in unit 2. QA documentation was received from the manufacturer on each of these newly assembled restraints certifying that they were inspected at each assembly step. The new seismic restraints were functionally checked upon receipt and following installation at Browns Ferry.

Failure Data

Seismic Restraint Data

International Nuclear Safeguards Corp.

Bethel, Connecticut

MSVA - Mechanical Shock and Vibration Arrestor - 1A

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