

Jersey Central Power & Light Company

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

April 24, 1973

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
Isolation Condenser Valve Failure

4/27/73
This event is considered to be an abnormal occurrence as defined in the Technical Specifications, Paragraph 1.15.E.

HT
FD
JK
RK
JS
LW
LB
UT
During the weekly surveillance test of the "B" isolation condenser motor operated condensate return valve V-14-35, a "breakaway from closed" motor current of 75 amps was observed. The high current continued for about 5 seconds whereupon the breaker was manually tripped. The reactor was in the cold shutdown condition at the time of this test.

Investigation is still in progress in an effort to determine the cause of this failure. However, as was the case upon the previous failure on December 29, 1972, the valve disc was finally freed from its seat only upon applying considerable torque to the operator handwheel. Once free, the valve was stroked with the motor operator to the fully opened, and then fully closed position several times without any difficulty. This valve had previously been stroked successfully on sixteen separate occasions during the weekly surveillance tests. In all but one case, the reactor was operating at pressure and temperatures associated with full power operation. In addition, during this period, the "B" isolation condenser was actuated on one occasion to assist in maintaining plant pressure during a shutdown. The valve and operator data are as follows:

Valve Manufacturer: Anchor
Size: 10" Wedge Gate
Rating: 600 pounds
Operator Manufacturer: Philadelphia Gear Company/Peerless Electric
Operator Type: SNV Size 2
Motor Rating: 4.3 h.p. @ 1900 rpm, 125 volts DC, 35 amps

8305180649 730424
PDR ADOCK 05000219
S PDR

Handwritten: *Anchor 50219*

2744

COPY SENT REGION 1

April 24, 1973

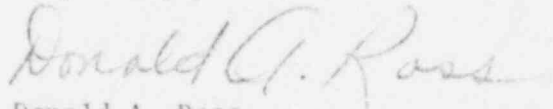
The requirements for at least one of the isolation condensers to act as a means of heat removal is detailed in Amendment 67 to the Oyster Creek FDSAR. Since the "B" isolation condenser would not have been able to fulfill this requirement, the significance of this event is that the isolation condenser system would not have had its designed redundancy.

Both the valve manufacturer and the associated operator manufacturer have been contacted to aid in our investigation of this failure during our present outage.

Additional information will be forwarded to your office as soon as it becomes available.

Enclosed are forty (40) copies of this report.

Very truly yours,



Donald A. Ross
Manager, Nuclear Generating Stations

DAR:cs
Enclosures (40)

cc: Mr. J. P. O'Reilly, Director
Directorate of Regulatory Operations, Region I