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BBS Ltr.#541-74

Dresden Nuclear Power Station
R. R. #1
Morris, Illinois 60450
July 26, 1974

50-237

Mr. J. F. O'Leary, Director
Directorate of Licencing
U. S. Atomic Energy Commission
Washington, D. C. 20545



SUBJECT: REPORT OF ABNORMAL OCCURRENCE PER SECTION 6.6.B.1.a OF THE
TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS.
REACTOR PRESSURE 600 PSI BYPASS SWITCH SETPOINT DRIFT.

References: 1) Regulatory Guide 1.16 Rev. 1 Appendix A

2) Notification of Region III of AEC Regulatory Operations
Telephone: Mr. F. Maura, 1145 hours on 7/22/74
Telegram: Mr. J. Keppler, 1330 hours on 7/22/74

Report Number: 50-237/1974-28

Report Date: July 26, 1974

Occurrence Date: July 20, 1974

Facility: Dresden Nuclear Power Station, Morris, Illinois

IDENTIFICATION OF OCCURRENCE

Reactor pressure 600 psi bypass switch PS 263-51A observed to operate at 604 psi, which is above the 600 psi limit.

CONDITIONS PRIOR TO OCCURRENCE

Dresden Unit 2 was in the run mode at 721 MWe. Routine instrument surveillance was in progress.

DESCRIPTION OF OCCURRENCE

During routine monthly calibration surveillance of PS-263-51A, it was observed that switch operation occurred at 604 psi, which is above the Technical Specification limit of 600 psi.

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DESIGNATION OF APPARENT CAUSE OF OCCURRENCE

Instrument drift due to lack of factory pre-cycling of switch prior to installation.

ANALYSIS OF OCCURRENCE

The function of switches PS-263-51A and 51B is to bypass the low vacuum scram contacts until reactor pressure has reached 600 psi. The system is designed so that either 51A or 51B will activate the low condenser vacuum scram function. Although 51A was found to operate at 604 psi, switch 51B operated at 599 psi. The system therefore was operable at all times.

CORRECTIVE ACTION

The immediate corrective action was to reset the switch to 580 psi. In addition, the switch will be sent to the factory for pre-cycling as soon as practicable.

FAILURE DATA

Similar setpoint violations on switch 263-51A have occurred during May of 1971 (607 psi), and June of 1973 (622 psi).

The switch is a Meletron Model 372 with a range of 28-1400 psi.

Sincerely,

Arthur M Roberts

for B. B. Stephenson
Superintendent

BBS:WEH:do