



Commonwealth Edison
One First National Plaza, Chicago, Illinois
Address Reply to: Post Office Box 767
Chicago, Illinois 60690

file

BBS Ltr. 506-75

Dresden Nuclear Power Station
R. R. #1
Morris, Illinois 60450
August 15, 1975

8-22-75
U.S. NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
RECEIVED

Mr. James G. Keppler, Regional Director
Directorate of Regulatory Operation-Region III
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
799 Roosevelt Road
Glen Ellyn, Illinois 60137

SUBJECT: REPORT OF A.O. PER SECTION 6.6.A OF THE TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS
ISOLATION CONDENSER HIGH FLOW SENSOR SETPOINT DRIFT

- References: 1) Regulatory Guide 1.16 Rev. 1 Appendix A
2) Notification of Region III of U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Telephone: Mr. P. Johnson, 1330 hrs. on August 8, 1975.
Telegram: Mr. J. Keppler, 1357 hrs. on August 8, 1975.
3) Drawing Number M-352 12E2506

Report Number: 50-249/75-34

Report Date: August 13, 1975

Occurrence Date: August 7, 1975

Facility: Dresden Nuclear Power Station, Morris, Illinois 60450

IDENTIFICATION OF OCCURRENCE

An instrument setpoint drift of isolation condenser high flow switches 1349A & B occurred on Unit-3.

CONDITIONS PRIOR TO OCCURRENCE

Unit-3 was in the cold shutdown mode for a refueling outage.

DESCRIPTION OF OCCURRENCE

At approximately 1500 hours on August 7, 1975, during routine surveillance of differential switches 1349A & B, both switches were found with setpoints above the Technical Specification limit of ≤ 32 " H₂O. Switch 1349A was found at 36" H₂O, and switch 1349B at 38.5" H₂O.

DESIGNATION OF APPARENT CAUSE OF OCCURRENCE

No definitive cause can be established at this time. Surveillances have not been performed on the switches during the outage. Review of prior surveillances has indicated that the setpoints of these switches are subject to a slow drift.

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ANALYSIS OF OCCURRENCE

Switches 1349A & B were found with acceptable setpoints during the routine surveillance conducted on March 11, 1975, some 36 days before Unit-3 was shut down for refueling. It is considered unlikely that the switches' setpoints exceeded Tech. Spec. limits while the unit was operating, given the 150-day span between surveillances. Analysis of the past performance of the switches indicates that setpoint drift occurs very gradually. The phenomenon of decreasing instrument setpoint values after extended outages was noted on Barksdale pressure switches (report no. 50-237/75-17 dated March 27, 1975). Based on the demonstrated reliability of switches 1349A & B when checked routinely during operation, it is concluded that this occurrence in no way endangered plant personnel or the general public.

CORRECTIVE ACTION

The switches were immediately reset to within the Dresden "band" of 28.5 ± 1 " H₂O. Action to prevent recurrence will be taken should specific problems be identified.

FAILURE DATA

Dresden has had a history of instrument drift on all types of instrumentation. A program including training of personnel and reconditioning and replacement of switches has been underway for some time. Switches 1349A & B were inspected and rebuilt in October, 1974. Pressure sensors 1349A & B are Barton model 283 differential pressure switches with a range of 100"H₂O.



B. B. Stephenson
Superintendent

BBS:JEH:jca