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BBS Ltr. #32-75

Dresden Nuclear Power Station
R. R. #1
Morris, Illinois 60450
January 16, 1975

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

SUBJECT: REPORT OF ABNORMAL OCCURRENCE PER SECTION 6.6.A OF THE TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS
HYDRAULIC PIPING RESTRAINT FAILURE

- References: 1) Regulatory Guide 1.16 Rev. 1 Appendix A
- 2) Notification of Region III of AEC Regulatory Operations
Telephone: Mr. P. Johnson, 1445 hours on January 6, 1975
Telegram: Mr. James G. Keppler, 1545 hours on January 6, 1975
- 3) Report 50-237/1974-53, Inspection of Bergen-Paterson Shock Suppressors

Report Number: 50-249/1975-1

Report Date: January 16, 1975

Occurrence Date: January 4, 1975

Facility: Dresden Nuclear Power Station, Morris, Illinois

IDENTIFICATION OF OCCURRENCE

When Unit 3 was shutdown on January 3, 1975, an inspection was made of all thirty-five snubbers in the drywell. The inspection of the Bergen Paterson shock suppressors on January 4, 1975, revealed that eight snubbers were low on oil with two of them considered inoperable. This condition could have prevented the performance of the intended safety function of an engineered safety feature system.

CONDITIONS PRIOR TO OCCURRENCE

Unit 3 was in the shutdown mode at the time of the inspection. The last inspection of the drywell snubbers was made about 105 days prior to this inspection.

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DESCRIPTION OF OCCURRENCE

The inoperable snubbers were found during a routine inspection during unit shutdown. The results of the inspections on the eight low snubbers are given in the following table.

Snubbers Found With Low Levels

<u>Snubber I.D. No.</u>	<u>Piston Rod Extension</u>	<u>Fluid Level Position</u>	<u>Snubber Location</u>
1	2.5"	3.5" (low)	B Recirculation Pump
14	2.5"	3.5" (low)	A Recirc Pump Discharge Line
19	3.0"	4.0" (low)	Recirc. Header
22	3.0"	6.0" (inoperable)	HPCI Line
25	3.5"	6.0" (inoperable)	Feedwater Line
26	1.0"	2.0" (low)	Feedwater Line
34	2.5"	3.5" (low)	3A Target Rock Safety Valve
35	2.75"	4.25" (low)	3A Target Rock Safety Valve

Note: The seal material for the above eight snubbers is ethylene propylene.

DESIGNATION OF APPARENT CAUSE OF OCCURRENCE (Equipment Failure)

The two inoperable snubbers were removed from the drywell and disassembled for a more thorough examination. This inspection revealed that the O-ring's were pinched, the seals showed slight deterioration and the cylinder was scratched. No singular cause can be assigned as mode of failure, rather all of the aforementioned problems contributed to the loss of oil from the snubbers.

ANALYSIS OF OCCURRENCE

The two inoperable snubbers did not threaten the health and safety of the public. The emergency core cooling systems and primary containment were available to provide adequate core cooling and containment within the drywell had a pipe rupture occurred.

CORRECTIVE ACTION

The two inoperable snubbers were replaced with rebuilt snubbers containing ethylene propylene seal material and oil was added to the other six snubbers

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the next day. An inspection was made of the eight snubbers to verify proper operation prior to start up.

FAILURE DATA

Most of snubber failures in the past were related to the usage of polyurethane seal material. This occurrence has no singular cause, but is attributable to the several minor problems which allowed an excessive oil leakage condition to exist during the 105 day operating period between inspections.

On January 16, 1975, Mr. R. Knop of AEC Region III was notified that this Abnormal Occurrence report would be submitted 12 days after the date of occurrence due to extended review of the problem.

Arthur M Roberts
for B. B. Stephenson
Superintendent

BBS:smp

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