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BBS Ltr. #76-642

August 31, 1976



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

SUBJECT: Dresden Unit-3 Condenser Low Vacuum Scram Switches

References: 1) Letter to J.F. O'Leary from W.P. Worden dated January 22, 1974
2) P & ID M-346

Report Date: August 31, 1976

Occurrence Date: January 14, 1974

INTRODUCTION

Under "Corrective Action" of the Abnormal Occurrence report referenced above, it was stated that the existing Barksdale condenser low vacuum scram switches appeared to lack acceptable repeatability. To correct the problem, the Barksdale switches were to be replaced with Static-O-Ring Corporation vacuum switches which had proved to be very reliable in similar applications.

RESOLUTION

After qualitative testing, the proposed substitution of the Static-O-Ring switch was judged to be undesirable because of the switch's seismic limitations. Furthermore, the performance of the condenser low vacuum scram switches over the intervening 34-month period indicates that the Barksdale switches have stabilized significantly. The maximum drift exhibited by any of these switches over this period has been 0.6 in Hg, which occurred once on PS 503C. By adjusting these switches to the Dresden setpoint band of 23.7 ± 0.2 in Hg, all setpoint variations have remained well within Technical Specification limits. Since the existing Barksdale switches on Unit-3 appear to be performing as designed, no corrective action is deemed necessary.

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