Commonwealth Edison Company
ONE FIRST NATIONAL PLAZA ★ CHICAGO, ILLINOIS
Address Reply to:
POST OFFICE BOX 767 ★ CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60690
Dresden Nuclear Power Station
R. R. #1
Morris, Illinois 60450

August 1, 1972

50-249

Mr. Edward J. Bloch, Acting Director
Division of Reactor Licensing
U. S. Atomic Energy Commission
Washington, D.C. 20545

Subject: License DPR-25, Dresden Nuclear Power Station
Unit #3, Section 6.6.B.2 of the Technical Specifications

Dear Mr. Bloch:

This is to report a condition relating to the operation of the station in which, during the calibration, a reactor pressure scram switch was found to have drifted beyond the limits of instrument accuracy, resulting in a setpoint beyond that allowed in section 3.1 of the Technical Specifications.

PROBLEM AND INVESTIGATION

During routine calibration on July 18, 1972, switch PS-3-263-55A was found set at a value corresponding to 1075 psig, compared to the limit of 1060 psig increasing. The switch was immediately recalibrated. The switch, a meletron model 372-65549A-292, is a bourdon tube type, with 316 type stainless steel. The range is 28-1400 psig and accuracy is ± 1%.

A review of the calibration history of this switch and others like it, shows an apparent tendency for the setpoint to drift upward during the summer and downward during the winter.

CORRECTIVE ACTION

The cause of the setpoint drift has not, as yet been determined. A spare switch will be purchased and installed so that one of the drifting switches

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can be removed and returned to the manufacturer for analysis. Meanwhile the calibration frequency of these switches has been increased to monthly during the summer months, when drift is in the non-conservative direction.

Sincerely,

W. P. Worden

W. P. Worden
Superintendent

WPW:sds

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Commonwealth Edison Company
ONE FIRST NATIONAL PLAZA ★ CHICAGO, ILLINOIS
Address Reply to:
POST OFFICE BOX 767 ★ CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60690

Dresden Nuclear Power Station
R. R. #1
Morris, Illinois 60450
July 27, 1972

Reportable in 2

Mr. Edward J. Bloch, Acting Director
Division of Reactor Licensing
U. S. Atomic Energy Commission
Washington, D. C. 20545

SUBJECT: LICENSE DPR-19 AND DPR-25, DRESDEN NUCLEAR POWER STATION UNITS #2 AND #3 SECTION 3.1 OF THE TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS.

Dear Mr. Bloch:

This is to report a condition relating to the operation of Units 2 and 3, in which on July 15, 1972, six of the eight "electrohydraulic control (EHC) oil low pressure scram switches" were found to have drifted beyond the setpoints established in the Technical Specifications.

PROBLEM

During the routine calibration (every three months - Tech. Spec. Table 4.1.2) the subject EHC switches were found to trip at setpoints ranging from 860 psig to 885 psig, compared to the limit of 900 psig decreasing. This incident involved two of four switches on Unit #2 and all four switches on Unit #3. The switches were immediately recalibrated and an investigation was begun to determine the cause of the drift.

Switches: Barksdale Model TC-9622-3, dual control, weatherproof housing, diaphragm type, 7000 psig proof pressure, designed for hydraulic oil, water or air, 250-3000 psig range, 1% accuracy.

INVESTIGATION

Inspections of the switch internals revealed that one switch had slight internal leakage, while the others displayed no apparent abnormalities. The internal leakage had no effect on the setpoint. A review of the calibration history of the switches showed a tendency to drift. The calibration procedure was reviewed and found to be satisfactory. The switches are calibrated for a trip setpoint of 910 ± 5 psig decreasing.

Dupe 8103110178

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CORRECTIVE ACTION

Because the reason for this large setpoint change is unexplained and because of the past tendency of these switches to drift slightly, they will be calibrated next month rather than just functionally checked as required by the Technical Specifications. The one leaking switch will be replaced with a switch which has a setpoint range of 250-1500 psig. This certified switch, ordered from the Barksdale Co., is model TC-9622-2. The new switch will be closely observed for drift and accuracy, and if it proves to have a better applicability to the system, all of the remaining switches will be replaced with 250-1500 psig setpoint range devices.

Sincerely,

W. P. Worden
Superintendent

WPW:do