

TENNESSEE VALLEY AUTHORITY
CHATTANOOGA, TENNESSEE
37401



October 5, 1973

Mr. John F. O'Leary, Director
Directorate of Licensing
Office of Regulation
U.S. Atomic Energy Commission
Washington, DC 20545

Dear Mr. O'Leary:

TENNESSEE VALLEY AUTHORITY - BROWNS FERRY NUCLEAR PLANT UNIT 1 -
DOCKET NO. 50-259 - FACILITY OPERATING LICENSE DPR-33 - ABNORMAL
OCCURRENCE REPORT BFAO-7317W

The purpose of this report is to provide details concerning the discovery of reversed instrument sensing lines on RCIC turbine steamline high flow differential pressure switch PdIS-71-1A on September 27, 1973, at Browns Ferry Nuclear Plant. This occurrence was reported by telegram on September 28 to the Region II Directorate of Regulatory Operations, Atlanta, Georgia.

Description of the Incident

During testing of the RCIC system at 150-psig reactor pressure, a negative steamflow was observed on flow indicator FI-71-1A. The reactor was scrammed by an unrelated cause during the test and remained shut down until the problem was resolved.

Investigation and Corrective Action

Investigation revealed that the high- and low-pressure instrument lines from the RCIC steamflow orifice were crossed. Also, investigation revealed that steamline high flow switch PdIS-71-1A was connected to these same instrument lines, therefore rendering it inoperable. Instrument lines to the redundant flow indicator and steamline high flow switch were found correctly installed.

The switch is part of the isolation logic for the RCIC system. Two days before the occurrence, this switch and the redundant switch in the other trip system were functionally tested and found to operate properly. Since only one of the two channels is required operable, the isolation logic would have performed its intended function if required.

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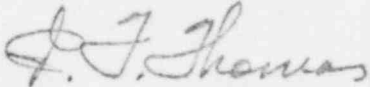
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The instrument lines were reversed at the instrument panel and the flow indicator observed to read upscale during a subsequent RCIC test. All instrument lines to differential pressure instruments in the technical specifications will be checked for correct installation either by physical inspection or by observation of instrument response during operation.

Very truly yours,

TENNESSEE VALLEY AUTHORITY



E. F. Thomas
Director of Power Production

CC: Mr. Norman C. Moseley, Director
Region II Regulatory Operations Office, USAEC
230 Peachtree Street, NW.
Atlanta, Georgia 30303