

TENNESSEE VALLEY AUTHORITY
CHATTANOOGA, TENNESSEE
37401



September 20, 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-7311W

The purpose of this report is to provide details concerning the reported failure of an automatic quick start of unit 1 high pressure coolant injection (HPCI) system on September 10, 1973. This occurrence was reported by telegram on the date of the failure to the Region II Directorate of Regulatory Operations, Atlanta, Georgia.

Description of the Incident

On September 10, 1973, during initial startup testing at 150 psig, the unit 1 HPCI system failed to reach rated speed and flow during a simulated automatic initiation (quick start). Immediately before this, HPCI did achieve rated speed and required flow during a manual/automatic flow test. Since the cause of the problem was not obvious, the reactor pressure was reduced below 122 psig to accommodate further investigation.

Investigation and Corrective Action

Inspection of the flow controller revealed a "cocked" amplifier plug-in receptacle with one end depressed and disconnected from that portion of its mating amplifier plug. The cause was traced to a missing anchor nut from the depressed end of the amplifier receptacle. When the missing nut was replaced allowing proper mating of amplifier connections, the original flow controller successfully passed a bench performance test. A new flow controller with a properly mounted amplifier receptacle was installed. After completing all necessary control adjustments, the HPCI system responded correctly and delivered rated flow in less than 25 seconds.

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Mr. John F. O'Leary

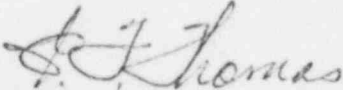
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To prevent recurrence, a locking material such as "Loctite" retaining compound will be installed on all similar GE/MAC controller receptacle fastener nuts. This work will be completed within 30 days.

Very truly yours,

TENNESSEE VALLEY AUTHORITY



E. F. Thomas

Director of Power Production

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