

ABNORMAL OCCURRENCE REPORT

Report No.: BFAO-50-260/7422W
Report Date: November 7, 1974
Occurrence Date: October 30, 1974
Facility: Browns Ferry Nuclear Plant unit 2

Identification of Occurrence

Failure to verify RSCS operability before decreasing below 20-percent rated power.

Conditions Prior to Occurrence

Reactor power was at 26 percent during startup testing.

Description of Occurrence

During the performance of recirculation system startup test, cavitation search phase, the reactor power was lowered to 26 percent. At this point, the low feedwater flow switch caused the recirculation pumps to prematurely run back; and reactor power dropped to 17 percent. The runback occurred before performing the surveillance test to verify RSCS operability. Technical specification 4.3.B.3. requires verification of the capability of the rod sequence control system to properly function before attaining 20-percent rated power when decreasing power.

Designation of Apparent Cause of Occurrence

The low feedwater flow switch actuating prematurely caused the recirculation pumps to run back, thereby lowering reactor power.

Analysis of Occurrence

The reactor power decreased from 26- to 17-percent rated power without the RSCS having been functionally tested. The control rod pattern required for RSCS had been achieved but not tested at the time the runback occurred, and the RSCS did enforce at the proper power level during the power reduction. Recirculation flow was increased to restore power to greater than 20 percent. There was no equipment malfunction or operator error. There were no adverse effects to the public health or safety as a result of this occurrence.

Corrective Action

The low feedwater flow switch setpoint has been set to operate at 22-percent rated power. In addition, the RSCS setpoint has been raised to give more margin between the RSCS enforcement and the recirculation pump runback.

Failure Data

None

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PDR ADOCK 05000266
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TENNESSEE VALLEY AUTHORITY
CHATTANOOGA, TENNESSEE
37401



November 7, 1974



Mr. Edson G. Case
Acting Director of Licensing
Office of Regulation
U.S. Atomic Energy Commission
Washington, DC 20545

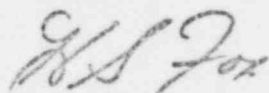
Dear Mr. Case:

TENNESSEE VALLEY AUTHORITY - BROWNS FERRY NUCLEAR PLANT UNIT 2 -
DOCKET NO. 50-260 - FACILITY OPERATING LICENSE DPR-52 - ABNORMAL
OCCURRENCE REPORT BFAO-50-260/7422W

The enclosed report is to provide details concerning failure to
verify RSCS operability before decreasing below 20-percent rated
power and is submitted in accordance with Appendix A to Regulatory
Guide 1.16, Revision 1, October 1973. This event occurred on
Browns Ferry Nuclear Plant unit 2 on October 30, 1974.

Very truly yours,

TENNESSEE VALLEY AUTHORITY

for 

E. F. Thomas
Director of Power Production

Enclosure

CC (Enclosure):

Mr. Norman C. Moseley, Director
Region II Regulatory Operations Office, USAEC
230 Peachtree Street, NW., Suite 818
Atlanta, Georgia 30303

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*50-260
incident*

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