

PHOTOCOPY

TO: MR. JAMES P. O'REILLY

AOR 73-12-1

ON DECEMBER 1, 1973 AT 1300 HOURS A MAGNETROL SWITCH #352624 IN THE SCRAM DUMP VOLUME LEVEL FAILED TO OPERATE DURING SURVEILLANCE TESTING AT NINE MILE POINT NUCLEAR STATION UNIT 1. THIS IS AN ABNORMAL OCCURRENCE PERSUANT TO TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS 1.13 b.

THE UNIT WAS OPERATING NORMALLY AT 1272 MWt, (920 MWe) WITH ALL PLANT SYSTEMS NORMAL. ROUTINE SURVEILLANCE TESTING WAS IN PROGRESS. THE SCRAM DUMP VOLUME LEVEL SWITCHES (37 GAL.) CAUSE A REACTOR SCRAM IN A 1 OUT 2 TWICE LOGIC. RD08C FAILED TO CAUSE THE REQUIRED ACTUATION OF #12 TRIP CHANNEL. THE REMAINING THREE INSTRUMENTS IN THIS SYSTEM PERFORMED AS REQUIRED.

INVESTIGATION REVEALED THAT THE MERCURY IN THE MERCURY BULB HAD OXIDIZED LOCKING THE MERCURY IN ONE POSITION. THE SWITCH CARRIAGE HAD MOVED AS REQUIRED. A PIN HOLE IN THE BULB ALLOWED AIR IN ENTRY AND OXIDATION OF MERCURY HAD OCCURRED. THE MERCURY BULB WAS REPLACED AND THE SWITCH FUNCTIONED NORMALLY ON TEST.

SINCE THE REDUNDANT COMPONENT WAS FULLY OPERABLE A SCRAM WOULD HAVE BEEN PRODUCED IF REQUIRED AND THEREFORE NO HAZARD WAS PRESENTED TO THE PLANT OR THE GENERAL PUBLIC. THIS IS THE FIRST FAILURE OF THIS NATURE.

VERY TRULY YOURS,

8303140169 731210  
PDR ADOCK 05000220  
S PDR

THOMAS J. PERKINS  
STATION SUPERINTENDENT  
NINE MILE POINT NUCLEAR STATION

*Perkins  
50-226*

MEMO ROUTE SLIP Form AEC-93 (Rev. May 14, 1947) AECM 0240		See me about this. Note and return.	For concurrence. For signature.	For action. For information.
TO (Name and unit) RO Chief, FS&EB RO:HQ (5) RO Files ✓ Central Mail & Files Regulatory Standards	INITIALS	REMARKS NIAGARA MOHAWK NINE MILE POINT NUCLEAR STATION		
	DATE	DN-50-220		
	(3)	AO 73-12-1		
TO (Name and unit) Directorate of Licensing (13) OGC Regional Directors (RO II, III, IV)	INITIALS	REMARKS The above abnormal occurrence is forwarded for		
	DATE	information. Distribution will be made		
		by this office to the PDR, Local PDR,		
TO (Name and unit)	INITIALS	REMARKS NSIC, DTIE, and State Representatives.		
	DATE			
FROM (Name and unit) <i>E. J. Brunner</i> E. J. Brunner Region I		REMARKS		
PHONE NO. 8-337-1246	DATE 12/4/73			

USE OTHER SIDE FOR ADDITIONAL REMARKS

GPO : 1971 O - 445-463