Office of Inspection and Enforcement  
Attn: Mr. Boyce H. Grier, Director  
Region I  
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
631 Park Avenue  
King of Prussia, Pennsylvania 19406  

Dear Sir:  

Three Mile Island Nuclear Station, Unit 2 (TMI-2)  
Operating License No. DPR-73  
Docket No. 50-320  
Licensee Event Report 80-053/01L-0  

Attached please find Licensee Event Report 80-053/01L-0, concerning  
the failure of Incore Thermocouples, N-8 and N-9, on November 17, 1980.  

This event is a violation of Section 3.3.3.6, Table 3.10, item 10,  
and is reportable under Section 6.9.1.9 of the Interim Recovery  
Technical Specifications.  

Sincerely,  

G. K. Hovey  
Vice-President and  
Director, TMI-2  

Attachments  

cc: John T. Collins
Incore Thermocouples N-8 and N-9 began to exhibit erratic behavior at 0900 hours on November 17, 1980, therefore, in accordance with Technical Specification 3.3.3.6, Table 3.3-10, item 10, this report is submitted. LERS 80-13, 80-41, and 80-50 concern thermocouple failures also. This event had no effect on the plant, its operation or the health and safety of the public.

The reason for the failure of Thermocouples is not known and may not be possible to determine given the condition of the Unit 2 core relative to incore instrumentation.

No corrective actions are appropriate relative to thermocouple failure. We are evaluating the situation to determine if any trend is becoming apparent and whether such a trend would have a safety impact in the long term.
TLL 669  
Attachment 2  

LICENSEE EVENT REPORT  
NARRATIVE REPORT  

TMI-2  
EVENT DATE - November 17, 1980  

I. EXPLANATION OF OCCURRENCE  

Incore Thermocouples N-8 and N-9 began to exhibit erratic behavior at 0900 hours on November 17, 1980; therefore, in accordance with Technical Specification 3.3.3.6, Table 3.3-10, Item 10, this report is being submitted.  

To date, four (4) LERs, including this one, concern thermocouple failures; the other three (3) are LER 80-13, LER 80-41, and LER 80-50.  

II. CAUSE OF THE OCCURRENCE  

The precise reason for the failure/erratic behavior of Incore Thermocouples is not known and may not be possible to determine given the condition of the Unit 2 core relative to incore instrumentation.  

III. CIRCUMSTANCES SURROUNDING THE OCCURRENCE  

At the time of the occurrence, the Unit 2 facility was in a long-term cold shutdown state. The reactor decay heat was being removed via loss to ambient. Throughout the event there was no effect on the Reactor Coolant System or the core.  

IV. CORRECTIVE ACTIONS TAKEN OR TO BE TAKEN  

IMMEDIATE  

No immediate action is applicable.  

LONG TERM  

We are evaluating the situation to determine if any trend is becoming apparent and whether such a trend would have a safety impact in the long term.  

V. COMPONENT FAILURE DATA  

The failed thermocouple was a Type K (Chromium/Alumel) thermocouple, Model No. DAZA-76-7R-1B-1T-IC, supplied by Babcock and Wilcox and manufactured by Bel Fab, Inc.