UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
OFFICE OF INSPECTION AND ENFORCEMENT
Washington, D.C. 20555

INSPECTION AND ENFORCEMENT MANUAL

TEMPORARY INSTRUCTION 2515/91

INSPECTION FOLLOWUP TO GENERIC LETTER 83-28, ITEM 4.1

2515/91-01 PURPOSE

To provide guidance for performing inspection followup to the licensee's response to Generic Letter (GL) 83-28, "Required Actions Based on Generic Implementation of Salem ATWS Events." This Temporary Instruction (TI) is intended to verify the satisfactory completion of the action required in Item 4.1 of GL 83-28 which concerns vendor-related modifications for reactor trip breakers in response to Multiplant Action (MPA) B-80.

2515/91-02 OBJECTIVE

To ensure that actions required in Item 4.1 of GL 83-28, reactor trip system reliability (vendor-related modifications), have been implemented.

2515/91-03 BACKGROUND

On February 25, 1983, during startup of the Salem Unit 1 plant, both Westinghouse DB-50 reactor trip system (RTS) circuit breakers failed to open automatically upon receipt of a valid trip signal on a low-low steam generator water level. This failure to trip was attributed to a binding within the undervoltage trip attachment (UVTA) located inside the breaker cubicle. The reactor was tripped manually from the control room about 30 seconds after the automatic trip signal was generated. Subsequent to the February 25 event, it was determined that a failure of the breakers to open following receipt of an automatic reactor trip signal also had occurred on February 22, but had not been detected at that time by the licensee. In addition, the NRC has become aware of approximately 25 other instances wherein the UVTAs failed to trip the RTS breakers within the acceptance time specified by the licensees. Sluggish operation of the UVTAs may indicate that the breakers are deteriorating to the point where complete failure to trip may ensue. This situation has caused the NRC to require licensees to expand their maintenance and surveillance testing of RTS breakers.

The Commission reviewed several intermediate-term actions to be taken by licensees and applicants as a result of the Salem anticipated transient without scram (ATWS). The actions were developed on the basis of information

contained in NUREG-1000, "Generic Implications of ATWS Events at the Salem Nuclear Power Plant." NRR issued GL 83-28 to all licensees and applicants on July 8, 1983, requiring the utilities, pursuant to 10 CFR 50.54(f), to furnish the status of current conformance with the positions contained in GL 83-28 and plans and schedules for any needed improvements. Initial responses to NRR were provided on or about November 5, 1983.

Several of the items addressed in GL 83-28 required immediate action by the licensee or required the licensee to describe its current program (as well as plans and schedules for changes to programs).

TI 2515/64 issued February 3, 1984, and the subsequent revision, Rev. 1, issued on April 4, 1985 provided inspection requirements and guidance for review of the licensee's implementation of the immediate actions required by GL 83-28. This TI ensures explicit compliance with ATWS Item 4.1 in response to MPA Item B-80.

2515/91-04 INSPECTION REQUIREMENTS

Actions required by this TI may have been adequately completed in implementation of TI 2515/64-04.03c. In those instances where the region has performed and adequately documented the required inspection, the inspection requirements of this TI may be waived; however, SIMS reporting requirement is still required. Otherwise, the inspector shall ensure the licensee can demonstrate that all vendor-recommended modifications were implemented on the reactor trip breakers. If modifications were not implemented, validity of any written justification for not implementing the modification should be reviewed by the appropriate NRC specialist.

2515/91-05 REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

Document the inspection results in a routine inspection report.

When inspection activities required by this TI are completed, enter the status of these activities in the following SIMS data fields. In the event the requirements of the TI were completed previously in implementation of TI 2515/64, the earlier inspection effort should be entered into SIMS. The SIMS issue number for this TI is MPA-B-80.

a. Inspection Report Number. Up to five inspection report numbers may be entered to identify those instances where the inspection activities are documented in more than one inspection report.

b. Inspection Report Date. This data field lists either the date of the final inspection report on this item, the date of the most recent inspection report on this item, or a projected final inspection date for this item.

c. Comments. This data field contains 300 characters and can be used to describe the status of NRC inspection activities for this item at each plant. Useful information in this field would include mentioning of outstanding open items or future licensee action needed to close the item, if applicable.

2515/91-06 EXPIRATION

This TI shall remain in effect until March 1988 or until all inspections are completed.

2515/91-07 CONTACT

Questions regarding this TI should be addressed to Michael Johnson at (301) 492-4808.

2515/91-08 STATISTICAL DATA REPORTING

Record actual time spent to perform the inspection and the time spent on followup items identified in the inspection report against module number 25591.

END