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GENERAL ELECTRIC

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May 24, 1985

MFN# 076-85

U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Office of Inspection and Enforcement
Washington, D.C. 20555

Attention: Mr. C. E. Rossi

Gentlemen:

SUBJECT: TELECON-GERMANE TO SAFETY - CLASSIFICATION CHANGES OF NSSS SPARE PARTS

Please find the attached memo of telecon to you of May 24, 1985. The telecon provided information on the change in classification of subassembly spare parts to safety grade.

Very truly yours,

George Stramback

G. B. Stramback, Manager
Safety Evaluations Program

GBS:pes/119A

Attachment

cc: L. S. Gifford, GE-Bethesda

IE20

MEMO OF TELECON

DATE: May 24, 1985

TIME: 11:00AM

PERSON CALLING G. B. Stramback

PERSON CALLED: C. E. Rossi (NRC-I&E, 301-492-4193)

SUBJECT: CLASSIFICATION CHANGES OF NSSS SPARE PARTS

Erni Rossi was called in order to inform the NRC of a condition determined to be not reportable but considered to be Germane-to-Safety. This conclusion is based upon GE completing its evaluation as to reportability under 10CFR Part 21.

Changes were made by GE in the safety classification of some subassembly spare parts from an unclassified status to a safety classified status. This change brought under review the quality of previously supplied subassembly spare parts and their ability to perform their intended safety functions.

The GE standard operating practice has been and still is to identify the safety classification at the assembly level (i.e., panel, pump, etc.) of the deliverable hardware. Thus, within GE's quality control process, the initial design and supply of safety related assemblies are classified and qualified as assemblies under controlled engineering procedures, however safety classification and qualification level for subassemblies, modules, or piece parts may not always be identified. As such, a later supply of subassembly spare and renewal parts for the safety related assemblies has not always been identified according to individual safety classification.

In reviewing this situation, GE has concluded that the quality control process, for design and supply of equipment, has not resulted in the supply of defective products which could cause a substantial safety hazard to the public. The subassembly equipment supplied as spares was purchased, manufactured, and supplied under the quality process of design and change control and in most cases used the same purchase specification as for the original equipment. Thus, the quality and functionality of subassembly spares can be considered as adequate to furnish the necessary safety actions. Finally, the spares, once installed in safety equipment are functionally tested by the utility to reestablish operational availability of the safety equipment.

The GE change in safety classification and processing of requests for many subassembly spare parts represents an improvement action for future control and supply of spare parts. It is part of a program which will cause the safety classification to be reviewed and revised where necessary. The program will include additional engineering and procedural revisions to implement these safety classification changes.

GE is in the process of informing its customers of this conclusion of non-reportability and has sent out information about how GE will respond to future purchase of spare parts.

GBS:pes/119AA
5/24/85