

September 2, 2003

MEMORANDUM TO: William D. Travers
Executive Director for Operations

FROM: Ashok C. Thadani, Director **/RA/**by Ashok Thadani
Office of Nuclear Regulatory Research

SUBJECT: STATUS OF ISSUES IN THE REACTOR GENERIC ISSUE
PROGRAM — AUGUST 2003 UPDATE

Resolution of the issues in the Reactor Generic Issue Program continues to be on track in accordance with the schedules previously submitted to you. The most significant development over the past four weeks was the resolution of Generic Safety Issue 168, "Environmental Qualification of Electrical Equipment." Attached is the August 2003 update of the status of the issues in the Reactor Generic Issue Program for inclusion in the Monthly Status Report to Congress.

Attachment: As stated

cc w/att.:
C. Paperiello, DEDMRS
S. Collins, DEDR

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III Status of Issues in the Reactor Generic Issue Program

Changes in the status or resolution dates for Generic Safety Issues (GSI) since the July 2003 report are described below:

GSI Number:	168
TITLE:	Environmental Qualification of Electrical Equipment
STATUS:	Accelerated-aging tests on electrical equipment showed that some of the environmentally qualified cables either failed or exhibited marginal insulation resistance. Failure of the cables during or following a design basis event could affect the performance of safety functions. In resolving the issue, the NRC reviewed the results of Okonite's testing of its single conductor, bonded-jacket cables and considered the voluntary initiatives that were taken by the industry to address the safety concern. After review and analysis of six LOCA tests, condition-monitoring tests on instrument and control (I&C) cables, and information provided by the nuclear industry, it was concluded that the existing equipment qualification process is adequate for assuring that I&C cables will perform their intended function. In May 2003, Regulatory Issue Summary 2003-09 was issued to document the NRC findings, and no new or revised licensee requirements were warranted. Thus, the issue was closed in August 2003.