



UNITED STATES
ATOMIC ENERGY COMMISSION
DIRECTORATE OF REGULATORY OPERATIONS
REGION III
799 ROOSEVELT ROAD
GLEN ELLYN, ILLINOIS 60137

TELEPHONE
(312) 858-2660

January 11, 1974

Northern States Power Company
ATTN: Mr. Leo Wachter, Vice President
Power Production and System
Operation
414 Nicollet Mall
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55401

Docket No. 50-263

Gentlemen:

The enclosed Directorate of Regulatory Operations' Information Request No. 74-1 is being sent to utilities that presently have Operating Licenses for completion of the requested action. Please submit your reply, within thirty (30) days of the date of this letter, to this office with a copy to the Assistant Director for Construction and Operation, Directorate of Regulatory Operations, U. S. Atomic Energy Commission, Washington, D. C. 20545.

Very truly yours,

James G. Keppler
Regional Director

Enclosure:
RO Information Request No. 74-1

bcc: RO Files
DR Central Files
PDR
Local PDR
OGC, Beth, P-506A

fg

ABNORMAL OCCURRENCES IN PIPING SYSTEMS

The AEC has received notification of recent occurrences at the Indian Point 2 and San Onofre reactors which resulted in damage to piping or pipe hanger systems inside containment. Previously, reports of events resulting in unanticipated movement or damage to piping and hanger systems, both inside and outside containment and involving both PWR and BWR designs, have been received from licensees. These occurrences suggest that a pattern of events may be occurring which may have a common cause or causes and be generic in nature.

It is possible that licensees have experienced other occurrences which may not have been of sufficient severity to have caused system damage, and may not have been considered reportable to the AEC under existing reporting requirements. To permit evaluation of these events for generic implications and the identification of possible common causes, information is requested regarding any event, condition, malfunction or operating error which has been observed or experienced at your facility since plant startup relating to the following:

1. Anomalous and excessive vibrations of piping and/or components in Quality Group A and B systems as defined in Regulatory Guide No. 1.26.
2. Unanticipated pipe, component or structural displacements, plastic deformations, or damage to Quality Group A and B pipe or component support systems.
3. Malfunctions of control systems or components which resulted in the imposition of unanticipated dynamic forces upon Quality Group A or B piping systems or components.

With respect to each event identified above, the following information is requested:

1. The causes and operational sequences relevant to the condition or event.
2. The corrective actions taken to prevent recurrence of the event (e.g., replacement or modification of malfunctioning components; addition or modification of piping system restraints).

In addition to the above items of interest there is another matter which may be related to events of the type under consideration. The AEC has learned of the existence of bulges in containment liners at several PWR facilities at locations adjacent to containment piping penetrations. To our knowledge these bulges have not affected containment integrity; however, their cause and significance are still being evaluated. To assist in further evaluation of this problem, please include in your response to this request information on any containment liner bulges observed at your facility that exceed the limits accepted following construction.