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AUTH.NAME AUTHOR AFFILIATION
CUTTER,A.B. Carolina Power & Light Co.
RECIP.NAME RECIPIENT AFFILIATION
VARGA,S.A. Operating Reactors Branch 1

SUBJECT: Discusses resolution of auxiliary feedwater (AFW) sys backleakage problems,per recent telcons,Check valves will be replaced during Jul 1984 steam generator outage,AFW pump room will be checked for backleakage daily,

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Director of Nuclear Reactor Regulation
Attention: Mr. Steven A. Varga, Chief
Operating Reactors Branch No. 1
Division of Licensing
United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, DC 20555

H. B. ROBINSON STEAM ELECTRIC PLANT, UNIT NO. 2
DOCKET NO. 50-261
LICENSE NO. DPR-23
AUXILIARY FEEDWATER SYSTEM (AFWS)

Dear Mr. Varga:

SUMMARY

This letter is in response to a request by your staff for formal documentation of the results of recent telephone conference calls regarding the AFWS at the H. B. Robinson Steam Electric Plant Unit No. 2 (HBR2). These conference calls and Licensee Event Reports 83-04 and 83-16 describe the recent backleakage of AFW check valves with subsequent vapor binding of the pumps. This letter documents how Carolina Power & Light Company (CP&L) will resolve the backleakage problem.

DETAILS

A study of the AFWS has been completed. The recommendation to resolve the vapor binding problem is to replace each AFW pump discharge check valve. Carolina Power & Light Company plans to replace the check valves during the Steam Generator Replacement Outage which is currently scheduled to begin in July 1984. After the check valves are replaced, the daily check of the AFW pump room will indicate if backleakage recurs. It is CP&L's belief that replacement of these valves will preclude backleakage from recurring. However, if the problem does recur, then more frequent checks of the room will be made and the situation will be reevaluated.

In the interim, the operating procedure has been revised to require the AFW pumps to be shut off prior to closing the discharge valves, which aids the check valves in seating properly. Also, the auxiliary operators' log has been revised to require checking each motor driven AFW pump discharge line

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upstream of the discharge check valve, and the steam driven AFW pump's casing for heating on a once-per-shift basis. If heating is detected, the AFW pump is operated to clear the line of vapor. Carolina Power & Light Company believes that continued operation of HBR2, with the above interim controls in place, poses no additional risk to the public health and safety.

If you have any questions concerning this subject, please contact a member of the Nuclear Licensing staff.

Yours very truly,

A. B. Cutter
Vice President
Nuclear Engineering & Licensing

ONH/cfr (9044ONH)

cc: Mr. J. P. O'Reilly (NRC-RII)
Mr. G. Requa (NRC)
Mr. Steve Weise (NRC-HBR)