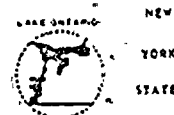




CENTRAL FILES



ROCHESTER GAS AND ELECTRIC CORPORATION • 89 EAST AVENUE, ROCHESTER, N.Y. 14649

TELEPHONE  
AREA CODE 716 546-2700

November 17, 1980

Mr. Boyce H. Grier, Director  
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Office of Inspection and Enforcement  
Region I  
631 Park Avenue  
King of Prussia, Pennsylvania 19406

Subject: 1B Emergency Generator barring device  
R. E. Ginna Nuclear Power Plant, Unit No. 1  
Docket No. 50-244

Dear Mr. Grier:

The purpose of this communication is to provide you with information as was mutually agreed regarding a situation involving the 1B Emergency Diesel Generator. The information herein has been reviewed by the Plant Operations Review Committee and this committee has determined that there is no unreviewed safety question and that there are no reportability requirements applicable relative to Ginna Station Technical Specifications. The information is provided for your review in keeping with our shared interest in the safety of nuclear power plants.

On Friday, October 3, 1980, the 1A Emergency Diesel Generator was involved in an event which resulted in a Licensee Event Report, LER 80-009, dated October 31, 1980. As stated in that Licensee Event Report, the 1A Emergency Diesel Generator was placed in service for routine surveillance testing with the barring device in service. The barring device failed, and, because the condition of this diesel generator was unknown, it was immediately declared inoperable. The alternate 1B Diesel Generator was placed in service as required by the Technical Specifications. Further investigation revealed the 1A Emergency Diesel Generator was indeed operable. The manufacturer stated that the barring device bearings were not designed to withstand continued operation with the diesel generator running. The barring device was physically removed to be reinstalled only during maintenance conditions.

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DATE November 17, 1980

TO Mr. Boyce H. Grier, Director

The investigation into this event ensued during the following week, and on October 7, 1980 it was discovered that the barring device for the 1B Emergency Diesel Generator was engaged. The barring device was immediately disengaged and physically removed, thus precluding any further recurrence.

Results of committee review and evaluation of this discovery are as follows.

1. The vendor was contacted and verbally concurred that in no way would an engaged barring device negate starting the Emergency Diesel Generator.
2. Missiles generated by the failure of an engaged barring device would not affect continued operability of the diesel generators based on the geometry and layout of the diesel generators.
3. The access records for the Emergency Diesel Generator areas were reviewed without identifying the person who engaged the barring device.
4. As stated previously, this discovery based on items 1 and 2 above was not reportable.


I assure you that recurrence of this situation is precluded since the barring device has been removed from both Emergency Diesel Generators and will be reinstalled and used during maintenance situations only. The Operations Engineer has issued a directive to all shift personnel advising them that procedures must be followed to operate the plant, changes to procedures require approval, and, where conditions arise for which proper action is not clear to an individual, such individual is to seek appropriate advice from more knowledgeable individuals.

Very truly yours,



Bruce A. Snow  
Station Superintendent

Approved:



John E. Maier  
Vice President

