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SUBJECT: Responds to unresolved item 95010-01 from insp repts
 50-315/95-10 & 50-316/95-10 re preconditioning of EDG.

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January 5, 1996

AEP:NRC:1224D

Docket Nos.: 50-315
50-316

U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
ATTN: Document Control Desk
Washington, D. C. 20555

Gentlemen:

Donald C. Cook Nuclear Plant Units 1 and 2
INTEGRATED INSPECTION REPORT 50-315/316 - 95010(DRP):
RESPONSE TO UNRESOLVED ITEM 95010-01

The attachment to this letter contains our response to the unresolved item concerning preconditioning of the emergency diesel generators.

Sincerely,

E. E. Fitzpatrick
Vice President

plt

Attachment

cc: A. A. Blind
G. Charnoff
H. J. Miller
NFEM Section Chief
NRC Resident Inspector - Bridgman
J. R. Padgett

9601180096 960105
PDR ADCK 05000315
G PDR

160008

ATTACHMENT TO AEP:NRC:1224D

RESPONSE TO UNRESOLVED ITEM 95010-01

Background

The unresolved item was generated due to an NRC concern that air rolling the emergency diesel generator (EDG) prior to surveillance testing constituted preconditioning of the EDG air start valves.

The air roll is performed prior to surveillances by opening the engine cylinder petcocks and rolling the EDG for several seconds with fuel disabled. Air rolling or barring the engine over, with cylinder petcocks open prior to starting, is considered good practice for diesels in nuclear and non-nuclear service. The purpose is to clear the cylinders of any fluids (e.g., oil) which may have collected in the cylinders during the standby period. Expulsion of such fluid above an estimated one quart from the cylinders through the petcocks would indicate the need for corrective maintenance. This preventive action precludes damage to the machine which might otherwise occur if a start is attempted with fluid in the cylinders. (See, for example, NUREG 1216, in which the NRC endorsed this practice for machines manufactured by Transamerica Delaval Inc.)

Resolution

Purging fluid from the EDG cylinders prior to any start following a long standby period is still desirable to protect the equipment. To alleviate the concern with preconditioning the air start system prior to fast starts, the twice-per-year fast starts will be preceded by barring the engine over with the air jack while the petcocks are open. Upon completion of the barring operation, the petcocks will be closed and the EDG will be fast-started in the normal manner. If the air jack is unavailable, or should prove otherwise undesirable, the EDG will be fast-started in the normal manner without an air roll.

