

THE
PHILADELPHIA ELECTRIC COMPANY

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JOSEPH W. GALLAGHER
MANAGER
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(215) 841-5003

October 25, 1979

Re: Docket Nos.: 50-277
50-278

IE Bulletin 79-23

Mr. Boyce H. Grier, Director
Office of Inspection & Enforcement
Region I
United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission
631 Park Avenue
King of Prussia, PA 19406

Dear Mr. Grier:

This letter is in response to IE Bulletin No. 79-23, which you forwarded to us on September 12, 1979, concerning the potential failure of emergency diesel generator (EDG) field exciter transformers. The "Actions to be Taken by Licensees" and our responses are treated sequentially.

Action to be Taken by Licensees

1. Determine whether or not connections have been made between low KVA rated transformers and high KVA rated EDGs without adequate limitations on the flow of circulating currents. If applicable, provide a description of the corrective action being taken to address this problem.

Response

At Peach Bottom there are no connections between low KVA rated transformers and high KVA rated EDGs which could allow the flow of high circulating currents which could exceed transformer ratings and result in transformer damage or failure.

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2. Provide a schedule for the completion of a sustained full-load operation test of the EDGs for a duration of not less than 24 hours, or provide the results of the similar long duration, full-load test which has already been completed on the EDGs installed at your facility. The test should demonstrate full-load carrying capability for an interval of not less than 24 hours, of which 22 hours should be at a load equivalent to the continuous rating of the diesel generator and 2 hours at a load equivalent to the 2 hour rating of the diesel generator. The test should also verify that voltage and frequency requirements are maintained and that the cooling system functions within design limits.

Response

Demonstration tests performed prior to startup of the Peach Bottom units were done to prove endurance of the four emergency diesel generators. Because the testing requested in IE Bulletin 79-23 differed from that of our original testing, testing was performed recently on one of the Peach Bottom emergency diesel generators in accordance with the 24 hour full load/2 hour emergency load rating criteria. The special testing was performed on only one Peach Bottom emergency diesel generator since all four emergency diesel generators are identical in design and installation. All systems performed within limits. Specifically, the voltage and frequency requirements were maintained and the cooling system parameters indicated that continued full load operation would pose no problem.

Very truly yours,

JW Gallagher

cc: United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Office of Inspection and Enforcement
Division of Reactor Operations Inspection
Washington, DC 20555

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