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October 31, 1979

Fort St. Vrain

Unit No. 1

P-79259

Mr. Karl V. Seyfrit, Director  
Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Region IV  
Office of Inspection and Enforcement  
611 Ryan Plaza Drive  
Suite 1000  
Arlington, Texas 76012

Subject: Environmental Qualification  
of ASCO Solenoid Valves

Reference: I & E Bulletin 79-01A  
PSC Correspondence  
P-79224 - Dated 9/28/79

Dear Mr. Seyfrit:

Per our telephone conversation of October 19, with Mr. Dan McDonald, we have contacted ASCO and obtained information relative to the environmental qualification requirements of their valves and have reviewed their recommendations concerning qualified life of the components and proper preventative maintenance recommendations. As a result of aging inherent to the resilient parts at ambient temperatures up to 140°F maximum, we will initiate a maintenance program to change out the resilient parts of the safety related, environmentally qualified ASCO valves within the recommended maximum service life requirements established by the manufacturer.

The maintenance program will be accomplished by placing the safety related ASCO solenoid valves on a staggered four-year program such that approximately one quarter of the valves will be maintained each year. It is anticipated that the maintenance program will allow for complete replacement of resilient parts in one loop prior to commencing part change out in the second loop. It will therefore require two years to complete resilient part replacement in a given loop.

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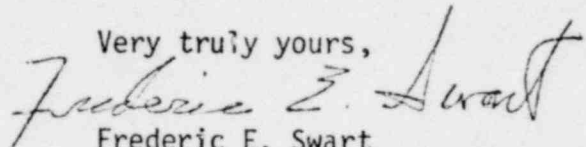
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Periodic replacement of the solenoid coils in the valves will be performed as necessary in lieu of periodic replacement based upon past operating history which has revealed no failures in the eight years of operation to date. The program to change out resilient parts within the valve will allow for periodic inspection of the solenoid coil within the maximum recommended service life of the manufacturer.

The valve maintenance program will be coordinated with plant operation requirements such that plant operability is not jeopardized. PSC will initiate the ASCO solenoid maintenance program in 1980 and will complete the initial resilient part change out of all existing safety related valves in 1984.

PSC is of the opinion that the safety related ASCO solenoid valve maintenance program outlined above meet the intent of I & E Bulletin 79-01A. Please refer any further questions regarding I & E Bulletin 79-01A to this office.

Very truly yours,



Frederic E. Swart  
Nuclear Project Manager

FES/TCP/scp

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