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July 3, 1979

IE Bulletin 79-11

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

Dear Mr. Grier:

This letter is in response to IE Bulletin No. 79-11, forwarded to us on May 22, 1979, concerning failures of Westinghouse type DB-50 and DB-75 circuit breakers used in safety related systems.

1. Determine whether circuit breakers of the above described manufacturer and type with overcurrent trip devices are in safety related Class IE service or in spares at your facilities.

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Response

Westinghouse type DB-50 and DB-75 breakers are not used in safety related Class IE service.

2. If the subject breakers are in service in safety-related systems, within 30 days, review the existing test data for all overcurrent trip device calibrations since plant startup or since replacement caps were installed and tested in response to Bulletin 79-1, whichever is most recent. Determine if any delay times are: (1) outside of the acceptance band; (2) marginally acceptable on the low side of the acceptance band; or (3) if any significant change in delay time performance has been observed. These breakers should be retested and end

caps replaced as necessary to assure no loss of safety function.

Response

Not applicable since we do not use this type of breaker in safety related Class IE service.

3. Inspect all end caps in spares for cracks using at least a 3x magnifying glass. Caps having visible flaws should be discarded, or prevented from use in Class IE applications.

Response

Not applicable since we do not use this type of breaker in safety related Class IE service.

4. Review test procedures and test schedules for all safety-related circuit breakers to assure that all such breakers are tested at least each refueling outage to confirm overcurrent time delay protection.

Response

Not applicable since we do not use this type of breaker in safety related Class IE service.

If you require any additional information or have any questions, please contact us.

Very truly yours,

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