



Commonwealth Edison

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PDR

June 18, 1979

Mr. James G. Keppler, Director
Directorate of Inspection and
Enforcement - Region III
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
799 Roosevelt Road
Glen Ellyn, Illinois 60137

Subject: LaSalle County Station Units 1 and 2
Byron Station Units 1 and 2
Braidwood Station Units 1 and 2
Response to IE Bulletin 79-09,
"Failures of GE Type AK-2 Circuit
Breaker in Safety-Related Systems"
NRC Docket Nos. 50-373/374, 50-454/455
50-456/457

References (a): J. G. Keppler letter to B. Lee, Jr.
dated April 17, 1979

(c): C. Reed letter to J. G. Keppler dated
May 17, 1979

Dear Mr. Keppler:

Reference (a) transmitted IE Bulletin 79-09 concerning the use of GE type AK-2 circuit breakers in safety-related systems. This submittal constitutes our response to that bulletin for our LaSalle County, Byron and Braidwood Stations.

At LaSalle County Station, which is currently under construction, there are no GE type AK-2 circuit breakers planned for use in any safety-related system. Consequently, no further response is required.

At the Byron and Braidwood Stations, which are currently under construction, the GE type AK-2 circuit breaker is employed. Therefore, a response to the subject bulletin (79-09) is submitted herewith in the format outlined in Reference (a).

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Mr. James G. Keppler:

- 2 -

June 18, 1979

1. Action Requested

"Determine whether or not GE type AK-2 breakers are used or planned for use in safety-related systems at your facility(ies)."

Response

Our review has determined that GE type AK-2 breakers are utilized as main supply (battery) ACB's for the 125V dc (ESF) Buses 111 and 112. These breakers are automatically tripped by over-current only, i.e., they are not equipped with an under-voltage trip device which was the apparent cause of the breaker failure described in IE Bulletin No. 79-09 (and further detailed in GE's Service Advice Letter No. 175).

2. Action Requested

"If such circuit breakers are used or planned for use, identify the safety system involved and provide in written form your plans for developing a preventive maintenance program which will assure design performance with the GE type AK-2 circuit breaker."

Response

As indicated in Item 1 above, these breakers are used in the two (redundant) 125V dc distribution systems which supply the dc control power requirements for safety-related equipment.

A preventive maintenance program, similar to the program in place at the Dresden and Quad-Cities Stations (Reference (b)) will be established. The program will be written and approved by no later than December 31, 1979 and implemented upon fuel load of the Unit 1 reactors at the Byron and Braidwood Stations.

3. Action Requested

"The program shall include as a minimum but not be limited to the following:

- a. Establish and adhere to a preventive maintenance schedule regarding the subject circuit breakers.

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Mr. James G. Keppler:

- 3 -

June 18, 1979

- b. Have the maintenance performed by qualified personnel. The GE power circuit breaker instruction manual should be used as guidance in setting up the maintenance procedures.
- c. During the previous maintenance, perform the recommended corrective actions described in the enclosed GE Service Advice Letter No. 175 (CPDD) 9.3, dated April 2, 1979. A copy of this letter is enclosed for your information and appropriate use."

Response

A preventive maintenance program will be developed to assure design performance of these breakers. The program will include, (See Item 1 above), but will not be necessarily limited to the following:

- a. A preventive maintenance schedule will be established and followed.
- b. Maintenance will be performed by qualified personnel. The applicable GE circuit breaker instruction manual will be used for guidance in procedures.
- c. In addition, maintenance personnel will perform the applicable corrective actions described in GE's Service Advice Letter No. 175.

Based on the above, we conclude that no further response is required at this time.

Please address any questions you may have concerning this matter to this office.

Very truly yours,

C. Reed

Cordell Reed
Assistant Vice-President

cc: Director, Division of Reactor
Operations Inspection

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