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# PACIFIC GAS AND ELECTRIC COMPANY

P. O. BOX 7442 • 77 BEALE STREET, 31ST FLOOR, SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA 94106  
TELEPHONE (415) 781-4211 TELECOPIER (415) 543-7813

MALCOLM H. FURBUSH  
SENIOR VICE PRESIDENT AND CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER

ROBERT OHLBACH  
VICE PRESIDENT AND GENERAL ATTORNEY

CHARLES T. VAN DEUSEN

PHILIP A. CRANE, JR.

HENRY J. LAPLANTE

JOHN B. GIBSON

ARTHUR L. MILLMAN, JR.

CHARLES W. THISSELL

DANIEL E. GIBSON

ASSISTANT GENERAL COUNSEL

June 12, 1981

GILBERT L. HARRIS  
GLENN WEST, JR.  
JOSEPH I. KELLY  
HOWARD V. GELUE  
JAMES S. LORSON  
ROBERT L. BORDEN  
RYAN W. HANCOCK  
RICHARD F. LOCKE  
DAVID L. LUDVIGSON  
WILLIAM M. EDWARDS  
F. RONALD LUDWIGMEYER  
ROBERT R. RICE  
DAVID J. WILLIAMS  
BRUCE R. NORTHINGTON

EDWARD J. McDERMOTT  
SAM GRAYSON LUNDEN  
JACK F. FALL, JR.  
BERNARD J. DELLABANTA  
JOSEPH BARLEY  
JOSEPH S. ENGLERT, JR.  
ROBERT L. HARRIS  
DOUGLAS A. GILBERT  
J. PETER BAUMGARTNER  
JOHN H. FINE  
J. MICHAEL REIDENBACH  
IVAN C. BARNES  
EMILEY A. WOOD

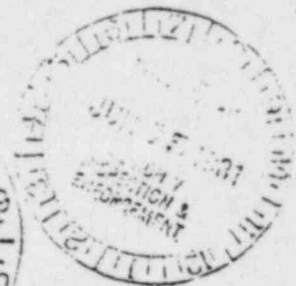
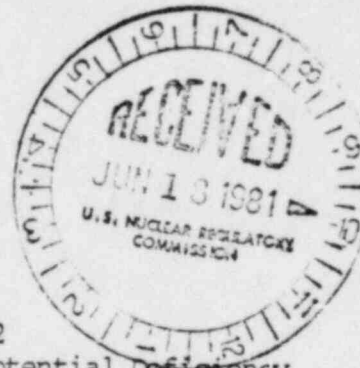
SENIOR COUNSEL

DAVID W. ANDERSON  
DAVID BERENSON  
LEIGH S. CANNON  
AUGUST DAINES  
DONALD D. ECKERSON  
PATRICK D. GOLDEN  
PAUL T. HARRIS  
RICHARD C. JONES  
HARRY W. LOMB, JR.  
JOHN B. LOM  
ROBERT B. MCELHENAN  
RICHARD H. MOSE  
SWALETT A. SANDERSON  
JACK W. SHUCK  
KENNETH TAND

ATHAN T. ANHARD  
STEVEN P. BURKE  
PAMELA CHAPPELLE  
DARYL R. ENGLISH  
DAVID C. GILBERT  
STEVEN F. GREENWALD  
JUAN M. JATO  
MERCE E. LARSON  
JESSICA LORING  
A. KIM MCKENZIE  
RICHARD L. MOSE  
ROGER J. PETERS  
JOHN L. SPATTER  
LOUIS E. VINCENT

ATTORNEYS

Mr. R. H. Engelken, Director  
Office of Inspection and Enforcement  
Region V  
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
1990 N. California Boulevard  
Suite 202  
Walnut Creek, CA 94596



Re: Docket No. 50-275  
Docket No. 50-323  
Diablo Canyon Units 1 and 2  
10 CFR 50.55(e) Report - Potential Deficiency  
Concerning the 120 VAC Vital Power Panelboards

Dear Mr. Engelken:

On May 14, 1981, Pacific Gas and Electric Company reported a possible 10 CFR 50.55(e) reportable occurrence at the Diablo Canyon Nuclear Power Plant concerning an apparent design deficiency in the 120 VAC vital instrument power supply panel no. PY13. This electrical panel is a Federal Pacific Electric Co. Model NALB.

The apparent design deficiency was noted when an electrician was making a termination at the neutral block in panel PY13. This action caused the neutral block to become detached from the neutral bus. Once detached the 120 VAC circuits in this panel were open-circuited causing the devices powered from this panel to become deenergized. This neutral block became detached because one of the two screws attaching it to the neutral bus had come free and the second screw was loose. The one remaining loose screw could not withstand the forces exerted by the electrician and the neutral block separated from the neutral bus.

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Mr. R. H. Engelken

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This situation was immediately alarmed in the control room indicating a loss of this 120 VAC vital power source. At this time, the panel was deenergized and the neutral block was repaired. The repair was discussed with the PGandE Electrical Engineering Department and the problem referred for their investigation and resolution.

Because there are four separate 120 VAC vital power supplies there was no adverse effect on plant safety as a consequence of the failure of this power supply.

We have decided to improve the design of the neutral block attachments and are in the process of modifying them. As these modifications are made, and in order to evaluate any potential problems, the construction staff will remove each neutral bus and determine the status of the attachment screws in all other Unit 1 and Unit 2 120 VAC vital panels. Once this determination is complete, we will provide a final report presenting our findings and evaluation of this situation.

The final report should be complete by August 15, 1981. Should the final report indicate that an actual design deficiency exists, we will include in the final report the additional reporting information required by 10 CFR 21.21.

Very truly yours,

*Philip A. Brown*

cc: Director  
Office of Inspection and Enforcement  
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Washington, D. C. 20555

Service List