

SOUTH CAROLINA ELECTRIC & GAS COMPANY

POST OFFICE BOX 764

COLUMBIA, SOUTH CAROLINA 29218

T. C. NICHOLS, JR.
VICE PRESIDENT AND GROUP EXECUTIVE
NUCLEAR OPERATIONS

June 18, 1981



Mr. James P. O'Reilly, Director
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Region II, Suite 3100
101 Marietta Street, N. W.
Atlanta, Georgia 30303

Subject: Virgil C. Summer Nuclear Station
Docket No. 50/395
Substantial Safety Hazard - Final Report
Nuclear Engineering File 3.1051

Lear Mr. O'Reilly:

This letter is confirmation of a telephone conversation with Mr. Virgil Brownlee of NRC Region II and Mr. Tom Brewer. This item was first reported by Mr. Tom Brewer to Virgil Brownlee on 5/19/81. The item involved replacing potentially defective droop lever springs in Woodward Governors used in emergency diesel generators.

Woodward Governor Company has already notified the NRC of the substantial safety hazard of the defective droop lever spring. This letter explains how the droop lever spring problem affects Virgil C. Summer Nuclear Station and how we replaced the defective springs with springs furnished by the original governor manufacturer.

The item is being reported under 10CFR50.55(e) procedure. This is considered a final report on the matter.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "T. C. Nichols, Jr.".

T. C. Nichols, Jr.

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10CFR21 - SUBSTANTIAL SAFETY HAZARD

Associated With

10CFR21 - Substantial Safety Hazard Reported by Woodward Governor Company

1. Name and Address of Reporting Individual

Tom Brewer
South Carolina Electric & Gas Company
Post Office Box 764
Columbia, South Carolina 29218

2. Identification of Basic Component

Defective droop lever spring in the governor of the Fairbanks Morse Diesel Generator.

3. Identification of Firm Supplying Component

Woodward Governor Company supplied governors to Colt Industries for Fairbanks Morse Diesel Generator.

4. Nature of Defect, Substantial Safety Hazard Created, and Evaluation

We were notified by Woodward Governor Company by letter dated April 10, 1981, about a possible defective droop lever spring, part number 1540-523, in Woodward governors. The Virgil C. Summer Nuclear Station purchased two new Woodward governors and one of these was installed on the "A" Diesel Generator to replace a 5 year old governor that needed calibration. The old governor and the new spare governor were placed in storage in the warehouse. The defective droop lever springs were in the new governors.

The safety hazard created by the defective spring was provided by Woodward Governor Company in their April 10, 1981, letter. If this spring breaks, the governor will go to minimum fuel position, thus causing a shutdown of the diesel. The governor will not function again until the spring is replaced.

5. Date Information of Defect Was Obtained - April 17, 1981.

6. Number and Location of Defect

Emergency Diesel Generator 1A - D. G. Building 427' Room A
Spare Governor - stored in warehouse.

7. Corrective Action

The suspected droop lever springs in Emergency Diesel Generator 1A and in the spare Woodward Governor in the warehouse were replaced with springs furnished by Woodward Governor Company. Work on the governor at Summer Nuclear Plant was performed by work request 53095. No other defective droop lever springs are on site.

8. Advice to Purchasers or Licensees

Woodward Governor droop lever springs, Woodward part number 1540-523, should be replaced with proper springs.