

400 Chestnut Street Tower II

June 12, 1981

81-462-000  
Part 21

BLRD-50-438/81-37  
BLRD-50-439/81-40

Mr. James P. O'Reilly, Director  
Office of Inspection and Enforcement  
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Region II - Suite 3100  
101 Marietta Street  
Atlanta, Georgia 30303



Dear Mr. O'Reilly:

BELLEFONTE NUCLEAR PLANT UNITS 1 AND 2 - GE RELAY DEFICIENCY -  
BLRD-50-438/81-37, BLRD-50-439/81-40 - FIRST INTERIM REPORT

The subject deficiency was initially reported to NRC-OIE Inspector R. V. Crlenjak on May 13, 1981, in accordance with 10 CFR 50.55(e) as NCR BLN EEB 8101. Enclosed is our first interim report. We expect to submit our next report by September 16, 1981. We consider 10 CFR Part 21 applicable to this deficiency.

If you have any questions concerning this matter, please get in touch with D. L. Lambert at FTS 857-2581.

Very truly yours,

TENNESSEE VALLEY AUTHORITY

L. M. Mills, Manager  
Nuclear Regulation and Safety

Enclosure

cc: Mr. Victor Stello, Jr., Director (Enclosure) ✓  
Office of Inspection and Enforcement  
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Washington, DC 20555

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ENCLOSURE

BELLEFONTE NUCLEAR PLANT UNITS 1 AND 2  
GE RELAY DEFICIENCY  
BLRD-50-438/81-37, BLRD-50-439/81-40  
10 CFR 50.55(e)  
FIRST INTERIM REPORT

Description of Deficiency

By General Electric service advice letter, TVA was notified of the potential for coil failure of GE type HFA relays manufactured between 1974 and 1979. The Lexan coil spools of these relays are susceptible to stress cracks and embrittlement caused by thermal aging and improper mixing of the Lexan. This nonconformance is significant in that a cracked coil spool could result in improper relay function upon energization or deenergization of the relay.

Interim Progress

General Electric has changed the spool material to Tefzel on all HFA relays manufactured since January 1979 to correct this deficiency. Approximately 64 HFA relays manufactured between 1974 and 1979 were supplied on Class IE 6.9 kV and 13.8 kV switchgear by Brown Boveri Electric, Incorporated, for Bellefonte Nuclear Plant. The vendor has been requested by TVA to furnish replacements for these relays to correct the problem. TVA will supply additional information on this nonconformance regarding the exact replacement relay type in the final report.