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June 29, 1981

BECO. Ltr. #81-152

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



License No. DPR-35
Docket No. 50-293

Response to IE Bulletin 81-02, "Failure of Gate
Type Valves to Close Against Differential Pressure"

Dear Sir:

The following information is provided in response to the above referenced bulletin:

Item #1

Within 30 days of the issuance date of this bulletin, ascertain whether any of the affected valves have been installed, or are maintained as spares for installation, where they are required to close with a differential pressure across them in safety-related systems or as PORV block valves. The differential pressures of concern include the following:

- a. For the W-EMD manufactured valves, values in excess of the threshold values in Table 1.
- b. For the BW-NVD valves, any value.

Response #1

Boston Edison has one (1) W-EMD valve, Model Reference 3GM99, Valve Ident. #03001GM99, Valve I.D. #3GM88, installed in the Reactor Core Isolation Cooling System (RCICS). The RCIC system is a safety-related system and this valve is required to close with a differential pressure across it. This valve is in use as an inboard steam line isolation valve (1301-16).

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Item #2

If no affected valves are identified, report this to be the case and ignore the items below.

Response #2

Item #2 is not applicable.

Item #3

If any affected valves are identified as being installed, take corrective action and evaluate the effect that failure to close under any condition requiring closure would have on system(s) operability pursuant to the facility technical specifications for continued operation.

Response #3

Failure of this valve to close under conditions requiring closure would necessitate the closure of the outboard steam line isolation valve (1301-17) as required by Technical Specification 3.7.D and would make the RCICs inoperable.

Item #4

If any affected valves are identified as spares, either modify the valves so that they are qualified for the intended service or obtain qualified replacements prior to installation.

Response #4

Item #4 is not applicable.

Item #5

Within 45 days of the issuance date of this bulletin, submit a report to NRC listing the affected valves identified, their service or planned service, the maximum differential pressure at which they would be required to close, the safety consequences of the valve's failure to close, the corrective action taken or planned, and the schedule for completing the corrective action.

Response #5

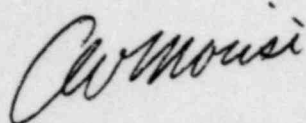
The one affected valve as listed in Response #1 would be required to close at a maximum differential pressure of 1040 psid @ 562°F. Failure of this valve to close has been discussed in Response #3.

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An engineering evaluation was performed to determine if the valve could perform its safety-related function. The results of the evaluation show that this valve can perform its safety-related function and no corrective action will be required.

We trust the information provided is satisfactory, however, should you desire any additional information, do not hesitate to contact us.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "C. W. Mousi".