



South Carolina Electric & Gas Company
P.O. Box 88
Jenkinsville, SC 29065
(803) 345-4001

John L. Skolds
Senior Vice President
Nuclear Operations

July 18, 1994
Refer to: RC-94-0182

Mr. S. D. Ebnetter
Regional Administrator
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Region II, Suite 2900
101 Marietta Street, NW
Atlanta, GA 30323

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Dear Mr. Ebnetter:

Subject: VIRGIL C. SUMMER NUCLEAR STATION
DOCKET NO. 50/395
OPERATING LICENSE NO. NPF-12
SPECIAL REPORT (SPR 94-005)

This special report is being submitted by South Carolina Electric & Gas Company (SCE&G) pursuant to Technical Specification 6.9.2 as required by Action 30 of Specification 3.3.3.1, Table 3.3-6, Item 2d.i.

At 0505 hours, July 5, 1994, the Main Plant Vent High Range Radiation Monitor, RMA-13, was declared inoperable due to spiking and spurious alarms. A preplanned alternate method of monitoring the appropriate parameters was established as required by Action 30 of Specification 3.3.3.1.

Supplement 1 to Special Report 92-004, dated July 31, 1992, identified a similar condition with RMA-13. It was determined that vibration from the Auxiliary Building ventilation duct was transmitted to the unit causing spurious operation at the low end of the instrument scale. To correct the condition, temporary shock mounts were installed on the detector mounting to eliminate the vibration.

The cause of the present condition is believed to be due to vibration or noise inducement. A troubleshooting modification request form (TMRF) is being developed to pursue the problem. The TMRF will direct swapping of the detector to the rate meter cables between RMA-13 and RMA-14 which are located in the same area. In addition, the temporary shock mounts will be removed from RMA-13.

If the problem is in the cable, then the spurious alarming condition will appear on RMA-14. If the spurious condition is due to vibration, RMA-13 will continue to be affected.

If it is identified that the fault is noise inducement via the cable, a new cable will be installed.

If the fault is due to vibration, one or all of the following actions may be taken:

1. Procure and install a detector of later design that is less susceptible to vibration induced failure;
2. Provide a new mounting that will eliminate vibration induced signals;



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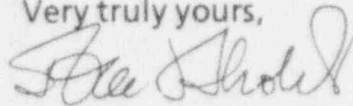
Mr. S. D. Ebnetter
SPR 94-005
Page 2 of 2

3. Install a weather shield to reduce vibration that may be induced by high wind.

A supplemental report will be submitted identifying the cause of the spurious alarms and the corrective action taken.

Should you have any questions, please call Mr. Richard Bouknight at (803) 345-4085 at your convenience.

Very truly yours,



John L. Skolds

RJB/JLS/nkk

c: O. W. Dixon
R. R. Mahan
R. J. White
G. F. Wunder
S. R. Hunt
NRC Resident Inspector
J. B. Knotts Jr.
Marsh & McLennan
Document Control Desk
INPO Records Center
Central File System
NSRC
RTS (ONO 940046)
File (818.05 & 818.08)