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March 12, 1983  
EF2-62616

Mr. James G. Keppler, Regional Administrator  
Region III  
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
799 Roosevelt Road  
Glen Ellyn, Illinois 60137

Subject: Interim Report of 10CFR50.55(e) Item on Failure of Main Steam Isolation Valves (#56)

Dear Mr. Keppler:

This interim report on the failure of Main Steam Isolation Valves problem has been prepared to provide the current status of this problem.

This item was originally reported to Mr. P. Byron of NRC Region III by Detroit Edison's Mr. H.A. Walker, Supervisor - Construction Quality Assurance, on February 17, 1982.

Four (4) motor operated Main Steam Isolation Valves located in the Turbine Building had failed to operate due to improper assembly. The packing lantern ring became cocked in the bore of the packing gland. Contributing factors to this phenomenon include: a) Improper assembly of the belleville washers; b) over torquing of the packing follower holddown nuts; and c) the horizontal orientation of the valve stem. The observed damage was a deep galling of the shaft and minor scratching and crushed packing. In addition, the lantern ring, the packing follower and follower yoke were damaged. This improper on-site assembly of the belleville washers on the packing retainer caused the valve stem to bind, and did not allow the valve to open or close.

These isolation valves are the third valves in a series away from the Reactor which were added per NRC requirements. The third valves are ANSI B31.1 valves, and as such, are not "N" stamped. They do not inhibit the safe shut-down of the Reactor.

Action recommended to correct this problem is as follows: a) Remove the lantern ring and replace it with additional packing; b) reduce the packing nut torque values to 250 ft.-lbs.; c) replace the valve stem and remove rough spots on the packing follower and yoke. Smooth roughness to the point where further stem galling should not occur; and d) construct and use a stem centering fixture for use during repacking operations. All of the aforementioned items and actions must be taken with the concurrence of the valve supplier.

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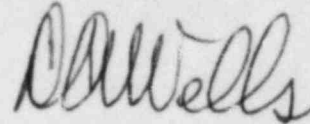
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Another report on this item, either interim or final, will be sent when further information is available. If you have questions concerning this matter, please contact Mr. G.M. Trahey, Assistant Director - Project Quality Assurance.

Very truly yours,



DAW/DF/pn

cc: Mr. Richard DeYoung, Director  
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