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50-382

TPT:064:FDC:83

August 17, 1983

Director of Nuclear Reactor Regulation
Attention: Mr. George W. Knighton
Chief, Licensing Branch No. 3
Division of Licensing
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, D. C. 20555

Subject: Docket No. 50-382
Louisiana Power & Light Company
Waterford-3 SES
Emergency Feedwater System
Independent Design Verification

Dear Mr. Knighton:

The letter is in response to the NRC's inquiry concerning classification of stresses by Combustion Engineering (CE) in Potential Finding Report - 2448-011. This specific potential finding raised a concern of the stress intensity exceeding the requirements for the upper support lugs on the steam generator. TPT questioned the stress resulting from normal operating and OBE loading combination at the snubber lugs was incorrectly classified by CE as a combination of primary plus secondary stresses. This PFR was determined to be a valid observation because a substantial safety hazard did not exist. This judgment was made by the Findings Review Committee based upon detailed independent calculations by TPT engineers indicating allowables were not exceeded. In addition, the impact assessment by the task leader did not have evidence that multiple similar violations, discrepancies or errors were uncovered in the review of other portions of CE designed structures. The review and judgment process was in compliance with the established procedure for processing of Findings (TPT Procedure 2448-PD-5).

NRC's concern resulted in a re-examination by TPT of data relating to CE's classification of stresses for other structures reviewed by TPT. The portion of CE designed structures selected for this independent design review of the emergency feedwater system included the steam generator upper support lugs (PFR-2448-011), the feedwater nozzle, lower support skirt, and the sliding base. This investigation established the fact that the method used to evaluate stresses in the upper support lugs was based on a paper published by Wichman, Hopper, and Mershan. This specific method was not

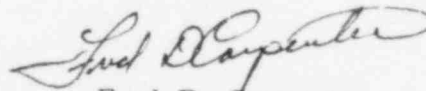
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the technique used in classification of stresses in the other three structures. Stress analysis for these three other structures classified the stresses properly and the allowable for primary plus secondary stress intensity range was properly applied.

This instance of what TPT considers to be a misclassification of stresses is an isolated case based on a specific method and no other instances were found. Thus based on TPT's scope of review, no generic problem is indicated.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Fred D. Carpenter".

Fred D. Carpenter
Project Manager

Attached: Distribution List

Distribution List

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