

GENERAL ELECTRIC

BREAKER BUSINESS SECTION

GENERAL ELECTRIC COMPANY • 6901 ELMWOOD AVENUE • PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA 19142 • (215) 726-2626

January 17, 1984

Mr. Richard DeYoung, Director
Office of Inspection & Enforcement
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, D.C. 20555

Re: Virgil C. Summer Nuclear Station
Docket No. 50/395
Operating License No. NPF-12
Substantial Safety Hazard
7.2kV Switchgear
NE File: 3.1051

Dear Mr. DeYoung:

On September 13, 1983, our Product Service Department was informed that South Carolina Electric and Gas Company had reported to Mr. J. P. O'Reilly on September 2, 1983 that in April 1983 they had replaced some crimp type solderless wire terminals because of broken wire strands, associated with the "52 Auxiliary Switch" mounted on G.E. Air Magnetic Circuit Breakers rated 7.2kV.

Mr. L. P. Carter, who is with our Nuclear Services Operation in Atlanta, Georgia, talked to SCE&G and arranged a visit to Columbia, South Carolina, for October 28, 1983. Mr. Carter reported that SCE&G didn't have records of the work done at that time and would forward same to him when available.

On November 15, 1983, our Atlanta Office forwarded SCE&G's records; however, they only stated how many breakers and the number of terminals per breaker that were replaced. No record was kept to show how many strands per wire were nicked or broken on the terminals. Our Atlanta Office asked SCE&G how many strands per wire were nicked or broken; SCE&G informed the Atlanta Office verbally that they estimated 10%.

Our specification No. 600045, Section 4.1.4 titled "Inspection of Crimp Type Solderless Terminals and Butt Splices" allows 6 (15%) nicked or broken strands per wire for our standard No. 14, 41 strand wire. Our Quality Assurance specification is the same as MIL 454H.

We have audited 16 Air Magnetic Breakers in our factory and test laboratory and have not found any wires with broken strands that exceeded our specifications. Some of these breakers are older and with operations well in excess of those at SCE&G. Since we have no report of broken strands - either here or at SCE&G - exceeding the specification, we feel that this is not a reportable item under 10CFR21.

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I have talked to Mr. V. Thomas and he suggested that I write to you explaining our position. On the above basis, we plan no further action.

Very truly yours,

J. H. Simpson

J. H. Simpson
Manager-Design Eng'ng.

/k

cc: J. P. O'Reilly
US Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Atlanta, Georgia