

**Detroit
Edison**

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December 22, 1983
EF2-66488

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 ITE 4160V Breaker
Puffer Piston Shaft (#91)

Dear Mr. Keppler:

This interim report concerning ITE 4160V breaker puffer piston shafts problem has been prepared to provide the current status of this item.

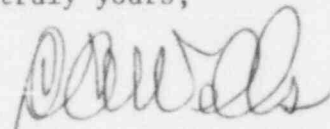
This item was originally reported to Mr. H. M. Wescott of MRC Region III by Detroit Edison's Mr. D. Ferencz, Acting Supervisor - Construction Quality Assurance on March 21, 1983.

The plastic puffer piston connecting shafts on several ITE 4160V circuit breakers have developed cracks. Several breakers have been examined, and one (1) actual failure was observed. The cracking and failure has occurred at the linkage connecting pin on the shaft. The puffer piston provides a gust of air to the main contact area to extinguish the arc during the open cycle.

Detroit Edison is currently awaiting the final shipment of replacement puffer piston connecting shafts. When received on site they will be installed to replace the damaged items. Brown Boveri is continuing their investigation and have indicated a report will be issued soon.

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,



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cc: Mr. Richard DeYoung, Director
Office of Inspection and Enforcement
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
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Mr. Paul Byron, Senior Resident Inspector
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