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March 9, 1984

MURRAY R. EDELMAN

VICE PRESIDENT
NUCLEAR

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

RE: Perry Nuclear Power Plant
Docket Nos. 50-440; 50-441
Linear Converters for Pacific
Air Products Co. Linear
Converters [RDC 94(84)]

Dear Mr. Keppler:

This letter serves as our interim report pursuant to 10CFR50.55(e) concerning a potential problem with premature failure of linear converters on multi-blade dampers utilized in safety-related heating, ventilation, and air conditioning (HVAC) systems. Mr. P. Pelke of your office was first notified on February 16, 1984, by Mr. B. Walrath of The Cleveland Electric Illuminating Company that this matter was being evaluated for applicability to the Perry Nuclear Power Plant.

This report contains a description of the potential deficiency, method planned to complete our evaluation, and the planned date for our final report.

Description of Deficiency

The Pacific Air Products Co. (PAPCO) notified the Owner, CEI, that they have filed a 10CFR21 notification with the NRC relative to a problem identified with a linear converter unit which has shown signs of excessive wear in service. This problem was identified at a non-nuclear generating plant.

The Pacific Air Products Co. furnished identical items for the Perry Plant through our HVAC supplier, the Robert Irsay Company.

The linear converter is a mechanical device that converts the linear (push-pull) motion of an electro-hydraulic actuator into rotary motion for operating HVAC dampers. The function of the damper is to control the volume of air in a ductwork system.

A total of fifty-two (52) of these converters have been supplied and installed at the Perry Nuclear Power Plant.

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Method Planned to Evaluate and Complete

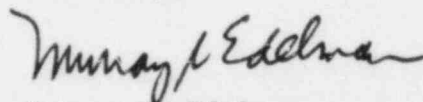
Upon initial notification of the above deficiency, the Owner instructed the installing contractor to issue two nonconformance reports (P049-2711, P049-2712) in order to track resolution of this problem.

PAPCO is presently conducting an investigation into this matter and a report on their investigation is scheduled to be issued by April 30, 1984. The investigation will include an analysis of the wear and a determination of its cause. Preliminary analysis by PAPCO indicates excessive wear of the brass shaft guides on the input and output shafts. It has also been determined through tests that a significant increase in the units life expectancy can be achieved with the addition of lubrication to the shaft. In the interim, PAPCO has furnished the Project with an inspection procedure to determine if units are suspect. They have also recommended that the units be lubricated with medium oil or grease as a temporary protective measure. Once PAPCO has completed their investigation and testing program, more information will be available to establish a basis for our evaluation.

We anticipate filing our final report on this subject by July 10, 1984.

Please contact us if you have any questions.

Sincerely,



Murray R. Edelman
Vice President
Nuclear Group

MRE:pab

cc: Mr. M. L. Gildner
NRC Site Office

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