

March 5, 1984

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T.F. Q2.2.2

United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Region I
631 Park Avenue
King of Prussia, PA 19406

Attention: Mr. Richard W. Starostecki, Director
Division of Project and Resident Programs

References: (a) Construction Permits CPPR-135 and CPPR-136, Docket
Nos. 50-443 and 50-444
(b) Telecon of February 10, 1984, A. L. Legendre (YAEC) to
Robert Gallo (NRC, Region I)

Subject: Interim 10CFR50.55(e) Report; Gould Combination Reversing Motor
Starters

Dear Sir:

On February 10, 1984, a potentially reportable 10CFR50.55(e) item was reported [Reference (b)] regarding problems with Gould combination reversing motor starters. We have reviewed the problems further, and conclude that they are reportable as a 10CFR50.55(e) deficiency. The following is our interim report concerning this subject.

Description of Deficiency

A Gould combination reversing motor starter jammed during preoperational testing. Inspection of the starter found that the screws for termination of the internal load side wiring to the contactors had pierced the phenolic side of the contactor. The resulting phenolic chips then migrated internally to the contactor and caused it to jam. In addition, the inspection found that the overload relays were pinching the internal wires and had caused insulation damage which eventually could cause an electrical short circuit.

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Safety Implication

The jamming of the contactor or the wiring short could have disabled the combination reversing starter, and prevented the connected motor from performing its safety function, for example, preventing a valve from opening or closing as required.

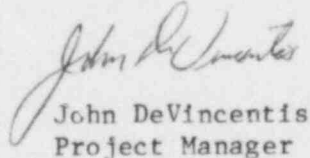
Corrective Action

Gould is replacing all of the defective combination reversing motor starters. The new starters will use shorter screws to prevent damage to the contactor side and will reroute the wires and use a different type of wire to prevent damage to the wire insulation. These problems affected 324 Sizes 1 and 2 starters for Unit 1 and about 40 Sizes 1 and 2 starters for Unit 2. The remaining Unit 2 starters have not been manufactured yet. We anticipate the replacement will be completed by the end of April at which time we will submit a final report on this item.

This letter is being filed pursuant to the interim reporting provision of 10CFR50.55(e)(3).

Very truly yours,

YANKEE ATOMIC ELECTRIC COMPANY


John DeVincentis
Project Manager

cc: Atomic Safety and Licensing Board Service List

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