

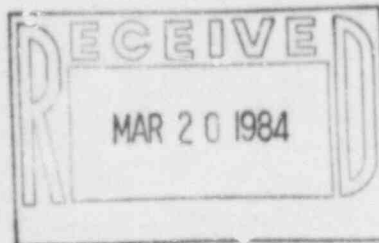


**LOUISIANA  
POWER & LIGHT**

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March 15, 1984

W3K84-0612  
Q-3-A35.07



Mr. John T. Collins  
Regional Administrator, Region IV  
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
611 Ryan Plaza Drive, Suite 1000  
Arlington, Texas 76012

REFERENCE: Telecon C. N. Hooper (LP&L) and D. Hunnicut (NRC) on February 3, 1984  
Telecon C. N. Hooper (LP&L) and W. Crossman (NRC) on March 5, 1984

Dear Mr. Collins:

SUBJECT: Waterford SES Unit No. 3  
Docket No. 50-382  
Potentially Reportable Deficiency No. 146  
"A-490 Bolts For Framing Above Steam Generators"  
Final Report

On February 3, 1984, a problem with the bolting above the steam generators was reported as Potentially Reportable Deficiency No. 146. Further evaluation of the previously described condition indicates this condition is not considered reportable pursuant to the requirements of 10CFR50.55(e).

#### EVALUATION

This concerns twenty (20) 7/8" x 2-3/4" LG A490 bolts whose heat number is the same as the 1" x 2-3/4" LG A490 bolts that were replaced per NCR W3-5627. After evaluation it is concluded that the incident is not reportable for the following reasons:

The 1" bolt failure may be attributed to excessive thread galling or introduction of bending on the bolt while calibrating impact tool wrenches. The replacement of the 1" was an expedient measure, in lieu of performing investigation into cause of failure. This investigation would have been similar to that performed under NCR W3-6534, where bolts failed under similar conditions and were found to be satisfactory.

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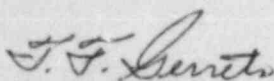
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Even though the 7/8" A490 bolts in question have the same chemical composition as the 1" A490 replaced bolts, the fabrication production process for different bolt sizes results in different physical strength characteristics. This can be readily seen on the bolt certification sheets, therefore 7/8" and 1" bolt behavior are not identical and common heat number alone is insufficient reason to reject the other bolts.

We are unable to ascertain whether the 7/8" bolts in question were discarded with the 1" bolts, are misplaced, or have been installed on site; however, should the 7/8" bolts have been installed, the installation had to adhere to site procedures, that is the bolts would be installed and inspected by either the turn of nut method or torque method. In either case these bolts either failed on installation or are holding the desired pretensioning for friction type connectors.

One characteristic of A490 class bolts is bolt popping, that is when bolt failure occurs, this failure is immediate and total. Therefore, any bolts installed are satisfactory.

Very truly yours,



T. F. Gerrets  
Corporate Quality Assurance Manager

TFG:CNH:SSTG

cc: Director  
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