



STATE OF RHODE ISLAND AND PROVIDENCE PLANTATIONS

RHODE ISLAND ATOMIC ENERGY COMMISSION

Nuclear Science Center

South Ferry Road

Narragansett, R.I. 02882-1197

July 9, 1984

U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Region 1
Office of Inspection and Enforcement
931 Park Avenue
King of Prussia, PA 19406

License R-95
Docket 50-193

Gentlemen:

This letter will confirm a telephone report made to Jerry Roth on July 5, 1984 concerning the failure of a motor starter component in the "clean" air blower which is part of the building clean-up system. This blower is required for operation of the reactor.

This blower controller consists of a reduced voltage starter incorporating a timer. The timer failed preventing the application of full voltage to the motor causing it to operate at reduced speed. When we discovered the failure, the reactor was shut down.

The failure occurred during an electrical storm. We believe that the circuit containing the timer was hit by lightning since other non-related devices on the circuit were also "burned out". In addition, observers from another building saw lightning hit the reactor facility twice. We are confident that a lightning strike was the cause because of damage in a computer terminal, a computer printer and a telephone, none of which is involved in reactor operations.

A replacement timer was obtained and installed on July 6, 1984. The blower then operated normally. The reactor returned to power on July 9, 1984, the next normal day of operation.

There were no consequences at the facility.

Very truly yours,

A. Francis DiMeglio
A. Francis DiMeglio
Director

AFD:cd

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