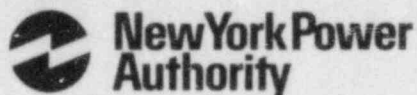


Indian Point 3
Nuclear Power Plant
P.O. Box 215
Buchanan, New York 10511
914 739.8200



December 7, 1984

IP-WDH-3952

Docket No. 50-286

License No. DPR-64

Mr. Thomas T. Martin
Division of Engineering and Technical Programs
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Region I
631 Park Avenue
King of Prussia, Pennsylvania 19406

Subject: I.E. Bulletin No. 84-02: Failures of
General Electric Type HFA Relays in Use
in Class 1E Safety Systems

References: 1) Letter from John C. Brons to Thomas T.
Martin, dated July 17, 1984
2) Letter from John C. Brons to Thomas T.
Martin, dated October 15, 1984

Dear Mr. Martin:

This letter supplements the Authority's previous responses to the subject bulletin and addresses the general concerns cited in this bulletin.

Per the referenced letters, the Authority indicated that the specific concerns of the subject bulletin regarding General Electric Type HFA relays were not applicable to Indian Point Unit 3 (IP-3). The referenced letters further indicated that a comprehensive review of the general bulletin concerns was being conducted. These general concerns involve the accelerated thermal aging of relay components which could result in shorter service life and a potential for relay failure for relays that are in normally energized circuits.

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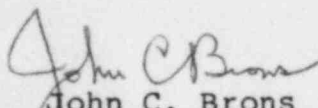
A detailed and comprehensive data base has been established which identifies the various types of relays used for safety-related functions at IP-3. This data base includes information with respect to relay type, manufacturer, function, normal state (i.e., energized, cycled, or de-energized), and surveillance practices. In conjunction with the evaluation of this established data base, past operating history and available manufacturer's literature were reviewed to ascertain the applicability of the general bulletin concerns to the safety-related relays existing at IP-3. From these reviews, the relay failures that have occurred at IP-3 and corrective actions taken were identified in addition to a number of preventative measures that have been taken to reduce the potential for relay failures.

It should be noted that similar concerns were previously identified by the NRC in IE Bulletin No. 79-25 ("Failures of Westinghouse BFD Relays in Safety-Related Systems") dated November 2, 1979 for Westinghouse (W) BFD relays. As part of the Authority's efforts to address these concerns, BFD relays with style numbers 46E7352 and 766A235 (and with their associated coil style number 503C428G21) were replaced with the modified BFD relay designated as NBFD with style number 5072A49 and coil style number 1271C50G01 as recommended by IE Bulletin No. 79-25. This replacement program is documented in the Authority's December 17, 1979 response to IE Bulletin No. 79-25 (Letter from J. P. Bayne - then Resident Manager, IP-3 to Boyce H. Grier - then Director, Region I Office of Inspection and Enforcement). Subsequent to installation of the modified BFD relay noted above, additional concerns were raised by W in Nuclear Service Division Technical Bulletin 81-14, Revision 1, dated January 15, 1982. Appropriate actions were taken by the Authority to resolve the concerns cited in this W bulletin. W BFD and NBFD relays constitute a large percentage of the relays used in safety-related functions at IP-3. No similar concerns have been identified for the balance of relays used in safety-related functions at IP-3.

From our review of the general concerns cited in IE Bulletin No. 84-02, it is concluded that these concerns are not applicable to IP-3, that the current practices at IP-3 are sufficient to minimize the potential for relay failures and that no further actions are necessary at this time.

Should you or your staff have any questions regarding this matter, please contact Mr. W. Hamlin of my staff.

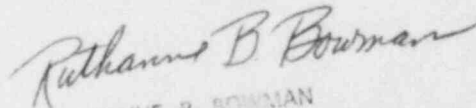
Very truly yours,


John C. Brons
Resident Manager
Indian Point Unit 3

cc: Resident Inspector's Office

Document Control Desk
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, D. C. 20555

SUBSCRIBED AND BOUND TO
BEFORE ME THIS 7th DAY
OF December, 1984.


RUTHANNE B. BOWMAN
Notary Public, State of New York
No. 4651904, Westchester County
Commission Expires March 30, 1985