



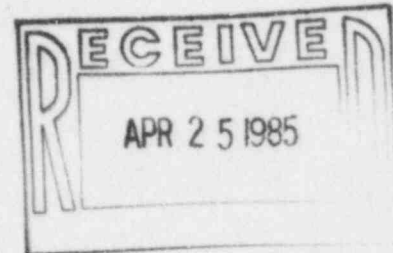
GULF STATES UTILITIES COMPANY

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April 19, 1985
RBG- 20778
File Nos. G9.5, G9.25.1.1

Mr. Robert D. Martin, Regional Administrator
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Region IV
611 Ryan Plaza Drive, Suite 1000
Arlington, Texas 76011



Dear Mr. Martin:

River Bend Station Unit 1
Docket No. 50-458
Interim Report/DR-261

On March 20, 1985, GSU notified Region IV by telephone that it had determined DR-261 concerning ITE Rowan auxiliary J14 relays to be reportable under 10CFR50.55(e). The attachment to this letter is GSU's 30-day written report pursuant to 10CFR50.55(e)(3) with regard to this deficiency. An interim or final status report will be provided by May 14, 1985.

Sincerely,

J. E. Booker

J. E. Booker
Manager-Engineering,
Nuclear Fuels & Licensing
River Bend Nuclear Group

JEB/PDD/lp

cc: Director of Inspection & Enforcement
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, D. C. 20555

NRC Resident Inspector-Site

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ATTACHMENT

April 19, 1985
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DR-261/ITE Rowan Auxiliary J14 Relays

Background and Description of the Problem

The deficiency concerns ITE Rowan auxiliary J14 relays as identified on Nonconformance and Disposition Report (N&D) No. 7851. GSU performed a startup test on switchgear 1ENS*SWG1A on October 27, 1984. During the test, it was found that sustained undervoltage auxiliary relays 27-1CX and 27-1AX reset coils continued to draw 0.13 amps at 125-V dc after the relays were reset, and one coil in each of the relays became inoperable. Relay 27-2BX was removed from the switchgear and tested. The test showed inconsistent operation of the relay. ITE Rowan J14 relays were used for the auxiliary relays and were made the subject of N&D No. 7851.

The manufacturer was requested to evaluate the deficient relays to determine the cause of the problem. Gould's response did not address the cause of the deficiency.

The open coil could have resulted from the continuous leakage current of 0.13 amps through the intermittent duty reset coil. The coil would then have opened due to overheating. Current flow would have resulted from the contact ahead of the coil not fully opening. The cause of this deficiency, however, is indeterminate.

Safety Implication

A failure of the reset action of the undervoltage auxiliary relays delays tripping of the 4.16-kV motor loads, some of the load center motor loads, and the supply breakers from the offsite power system. This delay (maximum 57 seconds) could cause motor overcurrent relay operation, and the motor feeder breaker to be tripped and locked. These safety-related motors will not start automatically upon an emergency unless the lockout relays are reset. If the supply breakers do not trip, this will prevent diesel load sequencing thus adversely affecting the safe operations of the plant.

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Corrective Action

The 12 J14 undervoltage auxiliary relays used for undervoltage protection in switchgears 1ENS*SWG1A and 1ENS*SWG1B have been replaced by new J14 relays. The relay problem did not recur, and the new relays operated as specified. There are ten other J14 relays used in these switchgear assemblies for other latching relay applications. E&DCR No. C-60,936 has been initiated to perform an inspection of these relays to assess the extent of the problem.