



MISSISSIPPI POWER & LIGHT COMPANY

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April 30, 1985

NUCLEAR LICENSING & SAFETY DEPARTMENT

U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Region II
101 Marietta St., N.W. Suite 2900
Atlanta, Georgia 30323

Attention: Dr. J. Nelson Grace, Regional Administrator

Dear Dr. Grace:

SUBJECT: Grand Gulf Nuclear Station
Unit 1
Docket No. 50-416
License No. NPF-29
File: 0260/0511/0512
RD-85/03, Interim Report #2, MSIV
Failure to Remain in Closed
Position Due to Failure of the
Dual Solenoid (ASCO) to Transfer
When De-energized
AECM-85/0142

Reference: AECM-85/0096 dated March 26, 1985

On March 21, 1985, Mississippi Power & Light Company (MP&L) notified Mr. Vince Panciera of your office of a Reportable Deficiency at Grand Gulf Nuclear Station (GGNS) Unit 1. The deficiency concerns the failure of dual solenoid valves to transfer when de-energized.

This deficiency was determined to be reportable under the provisions of 10CFR21 for Unit 1. Applicability to Unit 2 has not been determined at this time. MP&L's initial 10CFR21 report was provided in the reference letter.

The purpose of this letter is to provide the status of actions taken to date. As noted in interim report #1 (referenced letter), General Electric (GE) and the Automatic Switch Company (ASCO) were in the process of performing additional tests on the HTX solenoid valves to determine the cause and any further corrective actions, if required. This testing has not been completed at this time.

General Electric and ASCO have performed temperature testing of the HTX valves. During these tests, two valves which failed at GGNS were slow in transferring when de-energizing. The valves were disassembled and dimensional checks were performed. During disassembly small amounts of a foreign substance was found in the valves. This foreign substance was removed and sent to a chemical lab for infrared spectra analysis (non-metallic contents testing only). The valves were cleaned, reassembled and retested and were found to operate normally.

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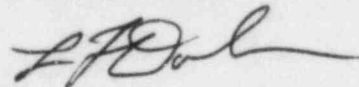
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The valves, foreign substance samples, and ASCO Test Report are being shipped to General Electric in San Jose, California for further analysis. In addition, General Electric has requested MP&L to provide additional HTX series valves of which GE plans to sample for foreign substances. These samples (from additional valves and existing test valves) will be subjected to plasma spectra analysis to determine metallic content.

Based on the above, the cause and corrective action has not been determined at this time. MP&L will provide an update report by June 30, 1985. If there are any questions, please advise.

Yours truly,



L. F. Dale
Director

EBS/SHH:vog

cc: Mr. J. B. Richard
Mr. O. D. Kingsley, Jr.
Mr. N. S. Reynolds
Mr. G. B. Taylor

Mr. James M. Taylor, Director
Office of Inspection & Enforcement
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, D. C. 20555