



January 23, 1997

U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, DC 20555

ATTENTION: Document Control Desk

SUBJECT: Potential 10 CFR 21 Condition - Counterfeit Component

Please be advised that Limitorque has discovered the existence of a counterfeit component installed in a Limitorque actuator at a nuclear power plant. This component is classified as "critical" by Limitorque Corporation.

The subject component had failed which resulted in actuator inoperability. The component was sent by the nuclear utility to Limitorque for root cause failure analysis. This analysis revealed that the failed component was not manufactured by Limitorque and was deficient in several critical required attributes.

It should be noted that this component was not installed in an actuator required to perform a safety related function. This component was apparently purchased from the "surplus" resale market.

This advisory does not follow the normal 10 CFR 21 formatting and is intended to act as a vehicle to alert the appropriate organizations to this potential significant safety issue. Licensee procurement, material control, etc. procedures should be reviewed to ensure adequate controls are in place to prevent a similar occurrence.

9701290314 970123
PDR PT21 EMVLMIT
97 PDR

290049

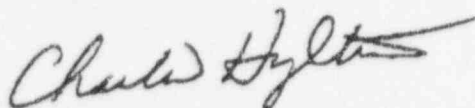
TE19

Page 2

January 23, 1997

Counterfeit Limitorque Actuator Component

Any questions on clarifications regarding this notification may be directed to Mr. P. McQuillan, Nuclear/Special Projects Manager at (804) 528-4400 Ext. 9714, or fax (804) 845-9736.



Charles L. Hylton
Vice-President of Engineering

CLH/lab

cc: Part 21 File - Evaluation #57

GENERAL INFORMATION or OTHER

EVENT NUMBER: 31665

LICENSEE: LIMITORQUE CORPORATION
CITY: LYNCHBURG REGION: 2
COUNTY: STATE: VA
LICENSE#: AGREEMENT: N
DOCKET:

NOTIFICATION DATE: 01/27/97
NOTIFICATION TIME: 09:35 [ET]
EVENT DATE: 01/27/97
EVENT TIME: 00:00 [EST]
LAST UPDATE DATE: 01/27/97

NOTIFICATIONS

NRC NOTIFIED BY: HYLTON
HQ OPS OFFICER: CHAUNCEY GOULD

VERN HODGE

NRR

EMERGENCY CLASS: NOT APPLICABLE
10 CFR SECTION:
NINF INFORMATION ONLY

EVENT TEXT

LIMITORQUE HAS DISCOVERED THE EXISTENCE OF A COUNTERFEIT COMPONENT
INSTALLED IN A LIMITORQUE ACTUATOR AT A A NUCLEAR POWER PLANT.

THE COMPONENT WHICH WAS INSTALLED IS CONSIDERED "CRITICAL" BY LIMITORQUE
CORPORATION. THE SUBJECT COMPONENT, WHICH FAILED, WAS SENT TO LIMITORQUE
FOR ROOT CAUSE FAILURE ANALYSIS. THE ANALYSIS REVEALED THAT THE FAILED
COMPONENT WAS NOT MANUFACTURED BY LIMITORQUE AND WAS DEFICIENT. IT SHOULD
BE NOTED THAT THIS COMPONENT WAS NOT INSTALLED IN AN ACTUATOR REQUIRED TO
PERFORM A SAFETY RELATED FUNCTION. THE COMPONENT WAS APPARFNTLY PURCHASED
FROM THE "SURPLUS" RESALE MARKET.