



Consumers  
Power  
Company

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January 10, 1986

85-08 #1

Mr J G Keppler, Regional Administrator  
US Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Region III  
799 Roosevelt Road  
Glen Ellyn, IL 60137

MIDLAND ENERGY CENTER PROJECT  
DOCKET NOS 50-329 AND 50-330  
TRANSAMERICA DELAVAL DIESEL GENERATORS, VALVE SPRINGS  
FILE: 0.4.9.113 SERIAL: 32530

On December 18, 1985 Consumers Power Company (CPCo) notified your staff of a reportable condition concerning intake and exhaust valve springs. In accordance with the requirements of 10 CFR 50.55(e), CPCo is making this interim report.

#### Description of Concern

CPCo received a Part 21 report from Transamerica Delaval dated November 6, 1985. Transamerica Delaval is the supplier of four standby diesel generators. The report indicates that recently, isolated failures of intake and exhaust valve springs occurred in commercial non-nuclear applications. In June of 1984 one spring failed in a 16 cylinder engine used for ship propulsion, and in October 1985 eleven springs failed in a second ship. The eleven springs all failed in a short time following a Coast Guard required overspeed test. Additionally, all springs failed after an extensive operating period (approximately 5,000 to 7,000 operating hours). The valve springs in question are manufactured by Betts Spring Company, San Leandro, California, and have a white stripe painted on the spring.

#### Safety Impact

The safety impact of this condition is indeterminate.

#### Root Cause

No root cause has been determined for this condition.

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Corrective Action

Corrective actions will not be pursued and no further reports on this subject will be made unless the Midland Energy Center is reactivated. This item will be entered in our Correspondence and Commitment Management system for long-term tracking.

*James W. Cook*

JWC/MCB/kan

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INPO Records Center

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