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December 21, 2022

U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Document Control Desk

Washington, D.C. 20555-0001

Attention: Document Control Desk

Subject: Interim Notification for Velan 14NPS Class 150 Triple Offset Butterfly Valve

Gentlemen,

On October 24, 2022, Entergy informed us via e-mail that a Velan triple offset butterfly valve size 14 NPS class 150 model W19-0CP13-KCDN-B0001, tag CV-3811, was found to have a number of fasteners loose, namely those holding the laminated seal in place by way of a seal ring.

The issues was noticed on one valve out of a lot of six; the remainder of the valves were confirmed compliant with our general assembly drawing. To our knowledge, valves delivered in the past to Entergy were never reported to exhibit a similar deficiency.
Our database also indicates that no similar instances were reported by other utilities on this type of valve.

Our preliminary evaluation indicates that there are several credible failure modes resulting from these fasteners not being tightened to the nominal torque, instead being just “finger tight”, as described by personnel at Arkansas One Unit 1:

1. Increased leak rate across the valve seat, proportional with the number of fasteners lacking the nominal torque
2. Potential limitation in open/close range of travel as result of seal or retaining ring sliding out of position, resulting in severe leakage across the seat
3. Potential for fasteners to come completely loose and become entrained in the flow, subsequently causing damage to equipment located downstream.

Our field service database also shows that we have not received any reports of severe leakage in similar valves, which can be an indicator for this condition. We do not know how many of the valves delivered to date have been installed and commissioned.

We are unable to determine if a substantial safety hazard exist, as the consequences and the severity of these potential failure modes depend on the system layout and function.

We are planning to issue a formal notification and inform the affected utilities on or before January 20, 2023.

For any additional information on this matter please contact me at +1 438 817-9908 or at victor.apostolescu@velan.com.

Sincerely yours,

Sincerely,

Victor Apostolescu, Eng.
Vice-president, Quality Assurance

CC: B. Carbonaro, Y. Lauzé, M. Lauzon, B. Masterson