

PRIORITY ATTENTION REQUIRED MORNING REPORT - REGION IV APRIL 18, 2000

Licensee/Facility:

Nebraska Public Power District
Cooper 1
Brownville, Nebraska
Dockets: 50-298
BWR/GE-4

Notification:

MR Number: **4-00-0012**
Date: 04/18/00
RIs by phone

Subject: EQUIPMENT QUALIFICATION DEFICIENCIES WITH OKONITE TAPED SPLICES

Reportable Event Number: N/A

Discussion:

On April 10, 2000, licensee management informed the resident inspectors that drywell temperature profiles during design basis accidents may exceed their equipment qualification test temperatures. Subsequent review by the licensee determined that the overall concern with the environmental qualification of drywell equipment was bounded by existing test results, as long as all electrical splices were in the configuration bounded by the test. To help confirm the actual configuration, on April 14, a licensee electrician and the NRC's resident inspector entered the containment to inspect a sample of splices. The electrician and resident inspector observed that, for most of the Okonite splices observed, the outer tape was unraveling. This called into question the overall environmental qualification capability of all Okonite splices within the containment. Based upon these findings, the licensee is currently considering the replacement, as needed, of all nonconforming splices with qualified materials; however, they are also conducting evaluations in an effort to qualify the as-found condition. The licensee is also reviewing the equipment affected by the Okonite splices. Equipment already identified as being affected includes motor-operated valves in the reactor core isolation cooling and high pressure coolant injection systems. Additionally, Regulatory Guide 1.97 instrumentation cables are affected. Licensee personnel are continuing to evaluate the scope and extent of this condition. Initial determination of risk significance is at least a Green-White borderline condition.

Regional Action:

Supplemental inspection to be conducted, in accordance with Procedure 95001.

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