

PRIORITY ATTENTION REQUIRED MORNING REPORT - REGION V APRIL 9, 1993

Licensee/Facility:

Notification:

Arizona Public Service Co.
Palo Verde 3
Wintersburg, Arizona

MR Number: 5-93-0022
Date: 04/08/93
RI TELEPHONE CALL TO REGION

Dockets: 50-530
PWR/CE80

Subject: LPSI 4.16 KV MAGNEBLAST CIRCUIT BREAKER SILENT FAILURE UPDATE

Reportable Event Number: N/A

Discussion:

On April 7, 1993, at 12:11 PM the licensee discovered that the "B" low pressure safety injection (LPSI) breaker (General Electric 4.16 KV Magneblast) had failed to re-charge its closing springs when it was last closed rendering the LPSI pump inoperable after the breaker opened. The cause of the failure of the closing springs to re-charge was due to the closing latch monitoring switch (also referred to as the release latch monitoring switch) reset spring coils becoming caught between the switch mounting bracket and the switch striker arm. The electricians learned that if this spring was rotated 180 degrees so the twisting action would pull the spring away from the closing latch monitoring switch, it was less likely for the spring to interfere with the travel of the striker arm. Neither the vendor supplied technical manual nor the licensee's overhaul procedures provided specific instructions on how the spring was to be installed.

The licensee has walked down all safety related 4.16 KV Magneblast breakers in Units 1, 2 and 3 and confirmed that all indicating lamps on the cubicle doors were illuminated indicating that the charging springs were charged. The licensee is also planning to require that this light be checked after every breaker cycling operation so potential future problems will be promptly identified. In addition, the licensee is planning to visually inspect the spring installation in all safety-related 4.16 KV Magneblast circuit breakers. Further, the licensee is evaluating the need for a 10 CFR Part 21 report.

Regional Action:

Resident inspectors witnessed some of the licensee's visual inspections and are continuing to monitor the licensee's activities.

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