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UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
OFFICE OF INSPECTION AND ENFORCEMENT
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555

September 14, 1979

IE Information Notice No. 79-22

QUALIFICATION OF CONTROL SYSTEMS

Public Service Electric and Gas Company notified the NRC of a potential unreviewed safety question at their Salem Unit 1 facility. This notification was based on a continuing review by Westinghouse of the environmental qualifications of equipment that they supply for nuclear steam supply systems. Based on the present status of this effort, Westinghouse has informed their customers that the performance of non-safety grade equipment subjected to an adverse environment could impact the protective functions performed by safety grade equipment. These non-safety grade systems include:

Steam generator power operated relief valve control system

Pressurizer power operated relief valve control system

Main feedwater control system

Automatic rod control system

These systems could potentially malfunction due to a high energy line break inside or outside of containment. NRC is also concerned that the adverse environment could also give erroneous information to the plant operators. Westinghouse states that the consequences of such an event could possibly be more limiting than results presented in Safety Analysis Reports, however, Westinghouse also states that the severity of the results can be limited by operator actions together with operating characteristics of the safety systems. Further, Westinghouse has recommended to their customers that they review their systems to determine whether any unreviewed safety questions exist.

This Information Notice is provided as an early notification of a possibly significant matter. It is expected that recipients will review the information for possible applicability to their facilities. No specific action or response is requested at this time. If NRC evaluations so indicate, further licensee actions may be requested or required. If you have questions regarding this matter, please contact the Director of the appropriate NRC Regional Office.

No written response to this Information Notice is required.

LISTING OF IE INFORMATION NOTICES
ISSUED IN LAST SIX MONTHS

Information Notice No.	Subject	Date Issued	Issued To
79-05	Use of Improper Materials in Safety-Related Components	3/21/79	All power reactor facilities with an OL or CP
79-06	Stress Analysis of Safety-Related Piping	3/23/79	All Holders of Reactor OL or CP
79-07	Rupture of Radwaste Tanks	3/26/79	All power reactor facilities with an OL or CP
79-08	Interconnection of Contaminated Systems with Service Air Systems Used As the Source of Breathing Air	3/28/79	All power reactor facilities with an OL and Pu Processing fuel facilities
79-09	Spill of Radioactively Contaminated Resin	3/30/79	All power reactor facilities with an OL
79-10	Nonconforming Pipe Support Struts	4/16/79	All power reactor facilities with a CP
79-11	Lower Reactor Vessel Head Insulation Support Problem	5/7/79	All holders of Reactor OLs and CPs
79-12	Attempted Damage to New Fuel Assemblies	5/11/79	All Fuel Facilities Research Reactors, and Power Reactors with an OL or CP
79-13	Indication of Low Water Level in the Oyster Creek Reactor	5/29/79	All Holders of Reactor OLs and CPs
79-14	NRC Position of Electrical Cable Support Systems	6/11/79	All Power Reactor Facilities with a CP
79-15	Deficient Procedures	6/7/79	All Holders of Reactor OLs and CPs

LISTING OF IE INFORMATION NOTICES
ISSUED IN 1979

Information Notice No.	Subject	Date Issued	Issued To
79-16	Nuclear Incident at Three Mile Island	6/22/79	All Research Reactors and Test Reactors with OLs
79-17	Source Holder Assembly Damage From Misfit Between Assembly and Reactor Upper Grid Plate	6/20/79	All Holders of Reactor OLs and CPs
79-18	Skylab Reentry	7/5/79	All Holders of Reactor OLs
79-19	Pipe Cracks In Stagnant Borated Water Systems At PWR Plants	7/17/79	All Holders of Reactor OLs and CPs
79-20	NRC Enforcement Policy NRC Licensed Individuals	8/10/79	All Holders of Reactor OLs and CPs and Production Licensees with Licensed Operators
79-21	Transportation and Commercial Burial of Radioactive Material	9/7/79	All power and research reactors with OL's