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Jerry C. Roberts
Director
Nuclear Safety Assurance

November 18, 2003

U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, D.C. 20555

Attention: Document Control Desk

Subject: Special Report Number 2003-001
Invalid Actuation of High Pressure Core Spray (HPCS)
Grand Gulf Nuclear Station
Docket No. 50-416
License No. NPF-29

GNRO-2003/00063

Sir or Madam:

The Grand Gulf Nuclear Station Technical Requirements Manual (TRM) 7.7.2.1 states: "In the event an ECCS system is actuated and injects water into the Reactor Coolant System during MODES 1, 2, or 3, a Special Report shall be prepared and submitted to the Commission within 90 days describing the circumstances of the actuation and the total accumulated actuation cycles to date. The current value of the usage factor for each affected safety injection nozzle shall be provided in this Special Report whenever its value exceeds 0.70". This Special Report is being submitted pursuant to TRM 7.7.2.1.

Discussion:

On September 27, 2003, at 0118 hours Central Time, while operating at approximately 100 percent power, Grand Gulf Nuclear Station experienced an invalid actuation of the High Pressure Core Spray (HPCS) System. The invalid signal was the result of an error made while performing a continuity check during a quarterly surveillance. Details can be found in Event Notification Number 40266.

This is the seventeenth cycle of the HPCS system experienced at GGNS at rated temperature and pressure. The operating usage factor increase for safety injection nozzles is very small (≈ 0.02) for each operating cycle. The operating usage factors for safety injection nozzles is approximately 0.3, which is significantly below 0.70, the level which must be reported to the NRC per the requirements of TRM 7.7.2.1.

November 18, 2003
GNRO-2003/00063
Page 2 of 2

Should you have any questions regarding this issue or require additional information, please contact Bill Abraham at (601) 437-2319.

Yours truly,



JCR/WBA

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