



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
REGION II
230 PEACHTREE STREET, N.W. SUITE 1217
ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30303

Central File
50-390
391

JUN 9 1978

In Reply Refer To:

RII:JPO

50-438, 50-439

50-259, 50-260

50-296, 50-518

50-519, 50-520

50-521, 50-553

50-554, 50-327

50-328, 50-390

50-391, 50-566

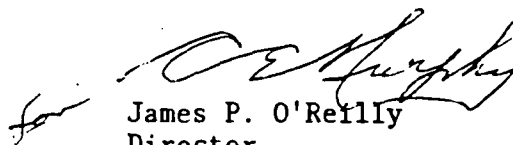
50-567

Tennessee Valley Authority
Attn: Mr. N. B. Hughes
Manager of Power
830 Power Building
Chattanooga, Tennessee 37401

Gentlemen:

The enclosed IE Circular No. 78-09, is forwarded to you for information. No written response is required. Should you have any questions related to your understanding of this matter, please contact this office.

Sincerely,


James P. O'Reilly
Director

Enclosures:

1. IE Circular No. 78-09
2. List of IE Circulars
Issued in 1978

AO 2
GD

Tennessee Valley Authority

-2-

cc w/encl:

J. E. Gilleland
Assistant Manager of Power
830 Power Building
Chattanooga, Tennessee 37401

W. W. Aydelott, Project Manager
Bellefonte Nuclear Plant
P. O. Box 2000
Hollywood, Alabama 35752

J. F. Cox
400 Commerce Street
W9D199
Knoxville, Tennessee 37902

J. G. Dewease, Plant Superintendent
Box 2000
Decatur, Alabama 35602

R. T. Hathcote, Project Manager
Hartsville Nuclear Plant
P. O. Box 2000
Hartsville, Tennessee 37074

G. G. Stack, Project Manager
Sequoyah Nuclear Plant
P. O. Box 2000
Daisy, Tennessee 37319

J. M. Ballentine
Plant Superintendent
Sequoyah Nuclear Plant
P. O. Box 2000
Daisy, Tennessee 37319

T. B. Northern, Jr.
Project Manager
Watts Bar Nuclear Plant
P. O. Box 2000
Spring City, Tennessee 37381

W. P. Kelleghan, Project Manager
Phipps Bend Nuclear Plant
P. O. Box 2000
Surgoinville, Tennessee 37873

M. M. Price, Project Manager
Yellow Creek Nuclear Plant
P. O. Box 2000
Iuka, Mississippi 38852

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

June 9, 1978

IE Circular No. 78-09

ARCING OF GENERAL ELECTRIC COMPANY NEMA SIZE 2 CONTACTORS

During routine preventive maintenance of a nonsafety related motor starter at Millstone Unit No. 2, the movable contacts in a General Electric Company (GE) NEMA Size 2 contactor (Part No. CR206D000EEH) were found to have been burned. Binding in the movable part of the contactor prevented a good electrical contact with the stationary contacts resulting in arc-burn damage. GE indicated the cause to be oversized copper tip support binding in the phenolic tip carrier. GE reportedly modified their tooling to correct for the manufacturing problem and inspected the contactor spare part kits in their warehouse for oversized tip supports.

The Northeast Nuclear Energy Company subsequently inspected the remaining GE NEMA Size 2 contactors installed at this facility and replaced oversized tip supports in three safety related and five other contactors.

All holders of an operating license or a construction permit should be aware that the above described GE contactor may be installed in safety related systems at their facilities and give consideration to assuring that these contactors do not have oversized tip supports which could cause poor electrical contact. You may want to also review your spare parts inventories for the plant to assure that similar contactors are not being held for use in safety related systems. Your review of this matter should consider whether corrective or preventive actions need to be implemented at your facility to alleviate the contact problems as discussed.

No written response to this Circular is required. If you require additional information regarding this matter, contact the Director of the NRC Regional Office.

LISTING OF IE CIRCULAR ISSUED IN 1978

Circular No.	Subject	Date of Issue	Issued To
78-01	Loss of Well Logging Source	4/5/78	All Holders of Well Logging Source Licenses
78-02	Proper Lubricating Oil for Terry Turbines	4/20/78	All Holders of Reactor Operating Licenses (OL) or Construction Permit (CP)
78-03	Packaging Greater Than Type A Quantities of Few Specific Activity Radioactive Material for Transport	5/12/78	All Holders of Reactor Operating Licenses (OL), Construction Permits (CP), Fuel Cycle, Priority I Material and Waste Disposal Licenses
78-04	Installation Error That Could Prevent Closing of Fire Doors	5/15/78	All Holders of an NRC Operating License (OL) or Construction Permit (CP)
78-05	Inadvertent Safety Injection During Cooldown	5/23/78	All Holders of a Reactor Operating License (OL), or a Construction Permit (CP)
78-06	Potential Common Mode Flooding of ECCS Equipment Rooms at BWR Facilities	5/23/78	All Holders of Reactor OLs or CPs
78-07	Damaged Components of a Bergen-Paterson Series 25000 Hydraulic Test Stand	5/31/78	All Holders of of Reactor OLs or CPs

IE Circular No. 78-09
June 9, 1978

Circular No.	Subject	Date of Issue	Issued To
78-08	Environmental Qualification of Safety Related Equipment at Nuclear Power Plants	5/31/78	All Holders of Reactor OLS or CPs

Enclosure
Page 2 of 2