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

December 13, 1979

IE Information Notice No. 79-31

USE OF INCORRECT AMPLIFIED RESPONSE SPECTRA (ARS)

Description of Circumstances:

Recently, the NRC was informed that, during a review of valve weights in conjunction with the as-built review for IE Bulletin 79-14 at North Anna Unit 1, it was discovered that incorrect amplified response spectra (ARS) had been used as input to the analyses of some piping on both units 1 and 2. The reanalyses are being performed by Stone & Webster (S&W), the Architect Engineer for the Virginia Electric & Power Company's facilities. Similarly, Public Service Company of New Hampshire informed the NRC that the wrong ARS were used for the design of some containment supports at their Seabrook units. The Architect Engineer for these plants is United Engineers & Constructors (UE&C).

The NRC is currently pursuing this issue in detail with S&W and UE&C to determine the extent of the problem and the generic implications for other facilities.

This Information Notice is provided as an early notification of a possible significant matter. It is expected that recipients will review the information for possible applicability to their facilities. Specific action has been requested by IE Bulletin 79-14. This bulletin requires that input to seismic analyses of piping, which includes the use of the correct ARS, be verified against the as-built condition of the plant. No specific actions are requested in response to this Information Notice. If NRC evaluations so indicate, further licensee actions may be requested or required. If you have any questions regarding this matter, please contact the Director of the appropriate NRC Regional Office.

No written response to this IE Information Notice is required.

RECENTLY ISSUED  
IE INFORMATION NOTICES

Information Notice No.	Subject	Date Issued	Issued To
79-31	Use of Incorrect Amplified Response Spectra (ARS)	12/13/79	All power reactor facilities holding OLs and CPs
79-30	Reporting of Defects and Noncompliances, 10 CFR Part 21	12/6/79	All power reactor facilities holding OLs and CPs and vendors inspected by LCVIP
79-29	Loss of NonSafety-Related Reactor Coolant System Instrumentation During Operation	11/16/79	All power reactor facilities holding OLs or CPs
79-28	Overloading of Structural Elements Due to Pipe Support Loads	11/16/79	All power reactor facilities with an OL or CP
79-27	Steam Generator Tube Ruptures At Two PWR Facilities	11/16/79	All power reactor facilities holding OLs and CPs
79-12A	Attempted Damage To New Fuel Assemblies	11/9/79	All Fuel Facilities, research reactors, and power reactors with an OL or CP
79-26	Breach of Containment Integrity	11/5/79	All power reactor facilities holding OLs and CPs
79-25	Reactor Trips At Turkey Point Units 3 And 4	10/1/79	All power facilities with an OL or a CP
79-24	Overpressurization Of Containment Of A PWR Plant After A Main Steam Line Break	10/1/79	All power reactor facilities with a CP
79-23	Emergency Diesel Generator Lube Oil Coolers	9/26/79	All power reactor facilities holding OLs and CPs
79-22	Qualification of Control Systems	9/14/79	All power reactor facilities with operating licenses and construction permits.
79-21	Transportation and Commercial Burial of Radioactive Material	9/7/79	All power and research reactors with OLs