

GENERAL ELECTRIC

POWER SYSTEMS MANAGEMENT BUSINESS DEPARTMENT
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September 5, 1985

Mr. Richard DeYoung
Director of Office of Inspection and Enforcement
United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, D. C. 20555

SUBJECT: PK-2 DISCONNECT BLOCKS

Dear Mr. DeYoung:

This letter will serve to inform you of failures of a limited number of terminal posts on PK-2 Disconnect Blocks reported to us by TVA. To our knowledge, TVA experienced fracture of a few terminal posts at their Sequoya installation and subsequently tested other PK-2 Blocks at Watts Bar and found that they could induce fractures in some cases.

We are currently conducting an investigation in an effort to determine whether the fracture is the result of a material problem or a process problem or both. We are also trying to determine the period of manufacture for the suspect units.

The PK-2 Blocks can be inspected for failures and in addition, a force on the terminal posts of about five pounds in any direction can be applied to detect incipient failures.

We will continue our investigation in an effort to determine the cause of the problem and provide a prognosis for units manufactured during the suspect period.

The PK-2 is an accessory device. It has been qualified for 1E applications. However, because of the broad usage of this product, and because some usage predates the Federal Regulations 10CFR21, we are unable to make specific notifications to power utilities who may be applying these devices in 1E installations. It is my understanding that the Nuclear Regulatory Commission will provide the notifications, as appropriate.

For your information, I had a telephone conversation today on this subject (PK-2 Blocks) with Jim Stewart of your organization, and I am sending a copy of this letter to Jim and to Vince Thomas.

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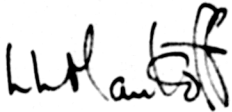
Richard DeYoung

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September 5, 1985

Please let me know if any additional information is required at this time.
We will keep you informed of the results of our investigation.

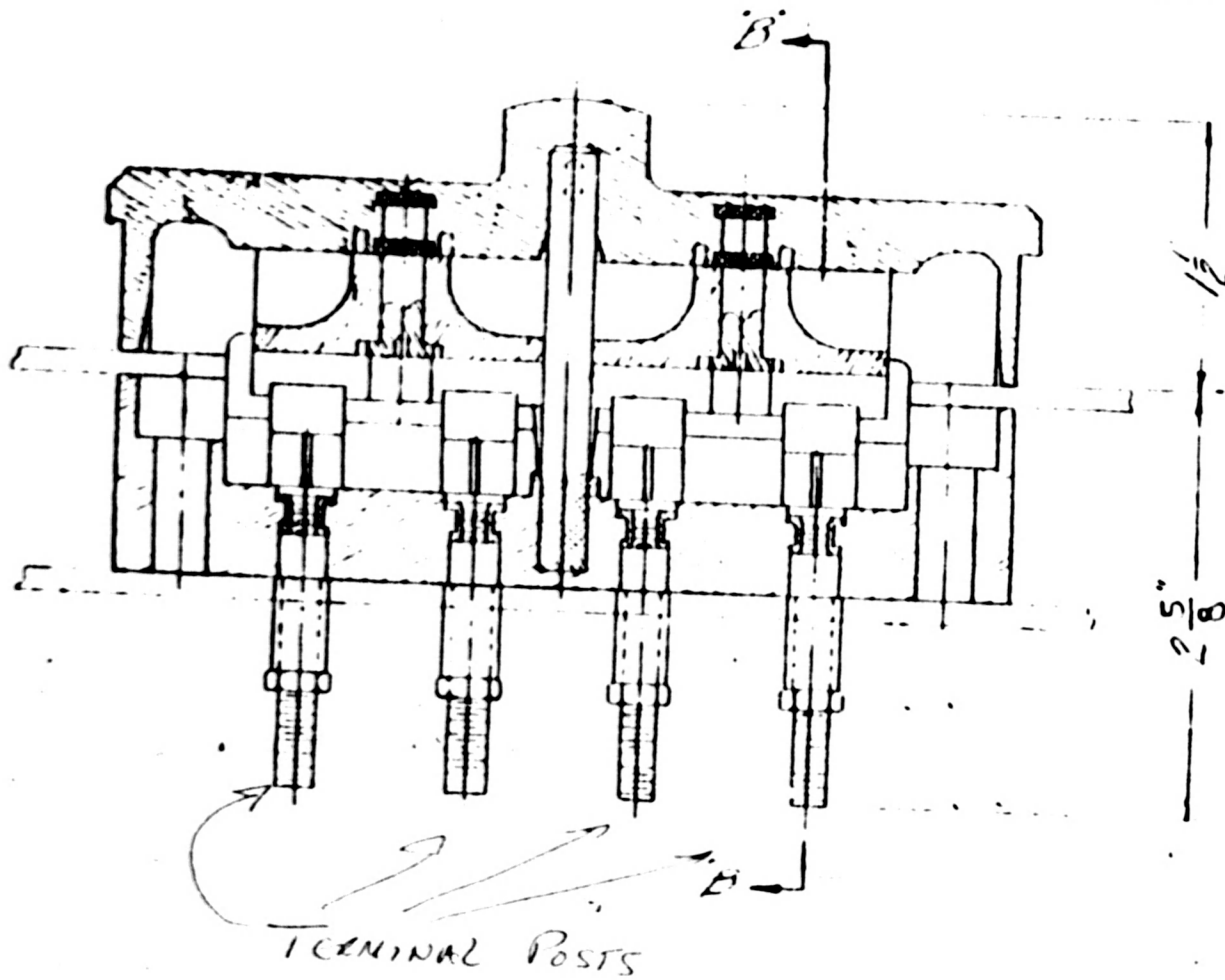
Yours truly,



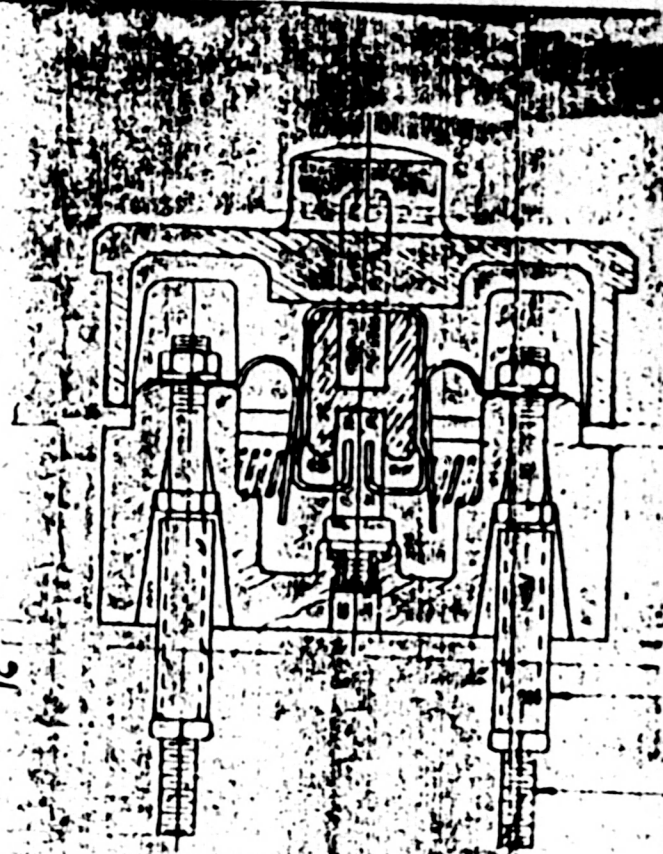
L. L. Mankoff
Manager, Engineering

LLM:hk

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SECTION B-B