

CENTRAL FILES

POWER AUTHORITY OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK
INDIAN POINT NO. 3 NUCLEAR POWER PLANT

P. O. BOX 215 BUCHANAN, N. Y. 10511

TELEPHONE: 914-739-8200



November 7, 1979
IP-WAJ-6156

Docket No. 50-286
License No. DPR-64

Boyce H. Grier, Director
Office of Inspection and Enforcement
Region I, 631 Park Avenue
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
King of Prussia, Pennsylvania 19406

I. E. Bulletin No. 79-23
Potential Failure of
Emergency Diesel Generator
Field Exciter Transformer

Dear Mr. Grier:

We have reviewed the design of our emergency diesel generators and have found that the generator neutral is floating and is not connected to ground, thus eliminating the possibility of any malfunction of the kind referenced in the bulletin. We have reviewed our operating records in regard to diesel generator load tests and have determined that the required full load and monthly surveillance tests, combined with greater than 230 hours of satisfactory operating history of each diesel demonstrates the adequacies of the diesel generators. In addition to the normal testing, the diesel generators have demonstrated their reliability during several plant blackouts, including the system wide blackout of July 13, 1977. During the July 13, 1977 blackout, the diesel generators were our sole source of electrical power and they performed flawlessly, supplying continuously reliable power for an average of thirteen (13) consecutive hours.

This flawless operation during the blackout plus the satisfactory performance of the surveillance tests, combined with the fact that our diesel generators are designed such that the type of malfunction referenced in the bulletin can not occur, is ample evidence that the diesel generators are capable of long duration full-load carrying capability.

Very truly yours,

J. P. Bayne
J. P. Bayne
Resident Manager

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Boyce H. Grier, Director

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cc: Office of Inspection and Enforcement
Division of Reactor Operations Inspection
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, D. C. 20555

George T. Berry, President and Chief Operating Officer
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New York, New York 10019

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Resident Inspector Rebelowski