

Stephen E. Quinn
Vice President

Consolidated Edison Company of New York, Inc.
Indian Point Station
Broadway & Bleakley Avenue
Buchanan, NY 10511
Telephone (914) 734-5340

September 5, 1997

Re: Indian Point Unit No. 2
Docket No. 50-247

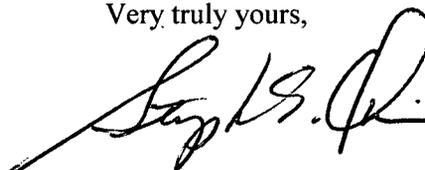
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US Nuclear Regulatory Commission
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Washington, DC 20555

SUBJECT: 10 CFR Part 21 Written Notification

On August 6, 1997, Con Edison submitted, by facsimile, the initial notification of a condition at Indian Point Unit No. 2 which we determined to be reportable under the requirements of 10 CFR Part 21. The reported condition involved switches which had been installed at the plant prior to the promulgation of the Part 21 regulations. We believe, however, that the Part 21 reporting mechanism is reasonable and conservative. The requirements of 10 CFR 21.21(d)(4) identify specific information to be included in this written notification. That information is provided in the attachment to this letter.

Should you have any questions regarding this matter, please contact Mr. Charles W. Jackson, Manager, Nuclear Safety and Licensing.

Very truly yours,



C: Mr. Hubert J. Miller
Regional Administrator - Region I
US Nuclear Regulatory Commission
475 Allendale Road
King of Prussia, PA 19406

Mr. Jefferey F. Harold, Project Manager
Project Directorate I-1
Division of Reactor Projects I/II
US Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Mail Stop 14B-2
Washington, DC 20555

Senior Resident Inspector
US Nuclear Regulatory Commission
PO Box 38
Buchanan, NY 10511

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Tel 9

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PDR ADOCK 05000247
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ATTACHMENT

Indian Point Unit No. 2 W-2 Switches with Texin Starwheels

The following information is provided as required by 10 CFR 21.21(d)(4).

- (i) Name and address of individual informing the Commission.

Stephen E. Quinn, Vice President - Nuclear Power
Consolidated Edison Company of New York, Inc.
Indian Point Unit No. 2
Broadway and Bleakley Ave.
Buchanan, NY 10511

- (ii) Identification of the basic component which contains a defect.

Component: W-2 Switch Starwheel
Recirculation Switches 3, 4, 6 and 8
(Manual control switches which support transfer from injection mode to
recirculation mode for various engineered safety features components at
Indian Point Unit No. 2)
Model: Type W-2

- (iii) Identification of the firm supplying the basic component which contains a defect.

Westinghouse Electric Corporation
product line subsequently transferred to
Electroswitch Switches & Relays
Unit of Electroswitch Corp.
180 King Ave
Weymouth, MA 02188

- (iv) Nature of the defect and the safety hazard which could be created by such a defects.

On June 6, 1997 during performance of a periodic test, Control Room Operators noted that two manual control switches were "sloppy" when operated. Although the switches did not fail to function as required, work was initiated to investigate and repair the switches. These switches, which are Westinghouse type W-2 switches with more than three stages, were found with starwheels made of Texin material. This is significant because Westinghouse, September 30, 1974, NSD Technical Bulletin, NSD-TB-74-10, warned of a problem with Texin starwheels, but excluded from the bulletin, all switches having more than three stages.

A report provided by Catholic University confirmed that the starwheel material within the failed switches as a polyurethane through infrared spectroscopy and chemical identification. The analysis also included testing to confirm that the material was not nylon (alternative material used for starwheels). Based on similarity comparisons to samples previously forwarded in 1996 it was concluded that the starwheel material within the failed switches was Texin.

BACKGROUND

On September 30, 1974, Westinghouse published revised NSD Technical Bulletin NSD-TB-74-10, "W-2 Switch Starwheel Failures." In this bulletin they described reported failures of certain starwheels found in W-2 switches. Starwheels manufactured prior to January 1970, installed "in switches of three stages or less," may have been made of a material called Texin. The material is recognizable by its color which ranges from light tan to dark brown. Acceptable starwheels are made of nylon and are either white or black, depending on their date of manufacture. White were produced from 1964-1969 and black since 1970.

- (v) The date on which the information of such defect was obtained.

The Catholic University Report, which confirmed the starwheel material in these switches having more than three stages was Texin, was received by FAX transmission on June 17, 1997.

- (vi) In the case of a basic component which contains a defect, the number and location of all such components in use at the facility subject to the regulations in this part.

The four switches identified, were the only cases where unexpected Texin material was found in a switch with more than three stages.

- (vii) The corrective action which has been taken.

Inspections of all W-2 switches having more than three stages were performed. Only the four switches identified above were found to have Texin starwheels. The Texin starwheels were subsequently replaced with new Nylon starwheels.

- (viii) Any advice related to the defect that has been given to purchasers or licensees.

Two Nuclear Network Entries were made to alert other licensees to this potential condition .

Westinghouse was provided with supporting technical information and a copy of the Catholic University Report by FAX on June 19, 1997.