

CATEGORY 1

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 AUTH. NAME AUTHOR AFFILIATION
 KAZANAS, N.C. Tennessee Valley Authority
 RECIP. NAME RECIPIENT AFFILIATION
 Document Control Branch (Document Control Desk)

SUBJECT: Interim deficiency repts BLRD-50-438/96-01 & BLRD-50-439/96-01 re defect in EDG starting air admission valves. Util will conduct evaluation of vendor recommended corrective actions & determine appropriate actions.

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Tennessee Valley Authority, Post Office Box 2000, Hollywood, Alabama 35752

September 20, 1996

U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
ATTN: Document Control Desk
Washington, DC 20555

10 CFR 50.55(e)

Gentlemen:

In the Matter of the Application of)
Tennessee Valley Authority)

Docket Nos. 50-438
50-439

BELLEFONTE NUCLEAR PLANT (BLN) UNITS 1 AND 2 - POTENTIAL
DEFECT OF STARTING AIR ADMISSION VALVES - PROBLEM
EVALUATION REPORT (PER) BLP960034 - BLRD-50-438/96-01 / BLRD50-
439/96-01

The subject deficiency is determined reportable in accordance with 10 CFR 50.55 (e) and is documented in Problem Evaluation Report (PER) BLP960034. Enclosed is TVA's interim report on the subject.

Should there be any questions regarding this matter, please telephone J. E. Blackburn, Acting Nuclear Assurance & Licensing Manager at (205) 574-8058.

Sincerely,


N. C. Kazanas
General Manager

Enclosure

cc: See page 2

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PDR ADOCK 05000438
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U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
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cc (Enclosure):

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ENCLOSURE 1

BELLEFONTE NUCLEAR PLANT (BLN) - UNITS 1 AND 2 POTENTIAL DEFECT OF STARTING AIR ADMISSION VALVES PROBLEM EVALUATION REPORT (PER) BLP960034 BLRD-50-438/96-01 AND BLRD-50-439/96-01

INTERIM REPORT

Description of Deficiency

The potential defect concerns the Emergency Diesel Generator(s) starting air admission valves as identified by Cooper Energy Services under 10 CFR 21 and the NRC Event Number 30728. A total of sixteen (16) valves are affected at the TVA Bellefonte Nuclear Plant by this notification. A malfunction of the starting air admission valves upon receipt of a start signal could prevent availability of the essential Emergency Diesel Generator(s) (EDG).

Safety Implications

The failure of the valves to fully open could potentially prevent of the EDG(s) from starting. Such a failure could create a substantial safety hazard due to a major reduction in the availability of plant safety systems.

Interim Progress

TVA will conduct an evaluation of the vendors recommended corrective action and determine appropriate corrective action. A final report concerning final disposition of the reported potential defect will be provided no later than six months prior to initial fuel loading.