

Central file

WISCONSIN PUBLIC SERVICE CORPORATION



P.O. Box 1200, Green Bay, Wisconsin 54305

December 21, 1979

Mr. J. G. Keppler, Regional Director
Office of Inspection & Enforcement
Region III
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
799 Roosevelt Road
Glen Ellyn, IL 60137

Dear Mr. Keppler:

Docket 50-305
Operating License DPR-43
IE Bulletin 79-25 - BFD Relays

The concerns of the above referenced IE Bulletin, which addresses high temperature operation (normally energized) and armature overtravel on Westinghouse type BFD relays, have been reviewed. Several styles of BFD relays identified in this bulletin are in use or are planned for use at the Kewaunee Nuclear Power Plant. A total of 80 BFD relays are used in the Engineered Safeguards circuits and 82 are used in the Reactor Protection circuits.

A program of functional testing has been in effect since June of 1975. This program was developed to cover all safety related relays. Eight relays in the feedwater isolation circuits are not currently tested in our routine surveillance testing program at the present time. Of these eight, four have no safety significance. The four with safety significance will be incorporated into the functional testing program to be performed at each refueling outage.

Frequency of functional testing for the surveillance program has been established considering whether or not the relays have any safety significance and whether or not they can be tested during normal operation. The review of the testing program indicates that the temperature environment they exist in results in a very small number of failures as evidenced by a failure rate since 1976 of 0.0009 per test.

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Twenty-six (26) BFD relays in the Engineered Safeguards circuitry are tested monthly. Forty-two (42) are tested during refueling with the four previously mentioned to be added to that number. Fifty-six (56) of the 82 BFD relays in the Reactor Protection circuits are functionally tested monthly. The remaining relays are tested during refueling outages.

The failure of these relays will be reported in accordance with Section 6.9 of the Kewaunee Technical Specifications.

Very truly yours,



E. R. Mathews, Vice President
Power Supply & Engineering

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cc - Dir, Office of Inspection & Enforcement
US NRC - Washington, D. C. 20555