

REGULATORY DOCKET FILE COPY

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FILE
50-261

FEBRUARY 5 1980

Docket No. 50-261

Mr. J. A. Jones
Senior Executive Vice President
Carolina Power and Light Company
336 Fayetteville Street
Raleigh, North Carolina 27602

Dear Mr. Jones:

On December 28, 1979 the NRC Office of Inspection and Enforcement issued Information Notice No. 79-37 that presented information available to the staff related to the discovery of cracks in the keyway and bore sections of Westinghouse 1800 rpm low pressure turbines. A copy of this Information Notice with errata sheet is enclosed.

Westinghouse notified utility users of this potential problem on October 30, 1979 and was requested by the staff to present a similar briefing in Bethesda, Maryland on December 17, 1979. You were contacted on December 14, 1979 and invited to send representatives to the staff briefing and also were requested to advise the staff of the actions being taken in regard to this potential problem at your operating nuclear power plant. Westinghouse was later requested to meet again with the staff and licensee-users on January 8, 1980 to supplement the information provided in the earlier meeting and in interim correspondence with the staff.

On the basis of information provided by Westinghouse and recent indications from turbine disc inspections now underway at Arkansas Nuclear One Unit 1, Beaver Valley Unit 1 and Indian Point Unit 2, it is evident that the probability of crack formation in these turbine discs is significantly greater than previously assumed by the vendor. It is my understanding that a partial inspection of your turbine was made in 1979. We request that you document your justification for continued operation until a full UT inspection is made of all discs and all defects thus identified are corrected. Therefore, in accordance with 10 CFR 50.54(f), you are requested to provide within 20 days of the date of this letter, or in any event prior to restart if your unit is not operating, written statements, signed under oath or affirmation, which will enable the staff to determine whether or not your license to operate H. B. Robinson Unit No. 2 should be modified, suspended, or revoked. As part of your statement, you should provide and address the safety significance of the information requested in Enclosure 2 of this letter.

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Mr. J. A. Jones

- 2 -

Because of the general nature of the information sought in Enclosure 2 we are transmitting a copy of this enclosure to Westinghouse by separate letter. As discussed in the December 17, 1979 meeting we urge you to address the generic aspects of this problem and to coordinate your responses through an owner's group.

Sincerely,

Original Signed By

Darrell G. Eisenhut, Acting Director
Division of Operating Reactors

Enclosures:

1. IE Information Notice No. 79-37
With Errata Sheet
2. Request for Information Related to
Turbine Disc Cracks - 20 Day Response

cc: w/enclosures
See next page

*SEE PREVIOUS YELLOW FOR CONCURRENCES

WJR 2/21/80

OFFICE	DOR:ORB1	DOR:ORB1	DOR:ORB1	DOR:AD:ORP	DOR:
SURNAME	*JDNeighbors:pab	*WJRoss	*ASchwencer	*WPGamill	DGE:Sammut
DATE	1/23/80	1/23/80	1/25/80	1/25/80	2/21/80

Docket No. 50-261

Mr. J. A. Jones
Senior Executive Vice President
Carolina Power and Light Company
336 Fayetteville Street
Raleigh, North Carolina 27602

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On the basis of information provided by Westinghouse and recent indications from turbine disc inspections now underway at Arkansas Nuclear One Unit 1, Beaver Valley Unit 1 and Indian Point Unit 2, it is evident that the probability of crack formation in these turbine discs is significantly greater than previously assumed and the energy of a turbine missile could be greater than postulated by the vendor in earlier safety analyses. It is my understanding that a partial inspection of your turbine was made in 1979. We request that you document your justification for continued operation until a full UT inspection is made of all discs and all defects thus identified are corrected. Therefore, in accordance with 10 CFR 50.54(f), you are requested to provide within 20 days of the date of this letter, or in any event prior to restart if your unit is not operating, written statements, signed under oath or affirmation, which will enable the staff to determine whether or not your license to operate H. B. Robinson Unit No. 2 should be modified, suspended, or revoked. As part of your statement, you should provide and address the safety significance of the information requested in Enclosure 2 to this letter.

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DATE ▶					

Likewise, you are requested to provide and address the safety significance of the information in Enclosure 3 within 60 days of the date of this letter.

Because of the general nature of the information sought in Enclosures 2 and 3 we are transmitting a copy of these enclosures to Westinghouse by separate letter. As discussed in the December 17, 1979 meeting we urge you to address the generic aspects of this problem and to coordinate your responses through an owner's group.

Sincerely,

Darrell G. Eisenhut, Acting Director
Division of Operating Reactors

Enclosures:

1. IE Information Notice No. 79-37
With Errata Sheet
2. Request for Information Related to
Turbine Disc Cracks - 20 Day Response
3. Request for Information Related to
Turbine Disc Cracks - 60 Day Response

cc: w/enclosures
See next page

OFFICE ▶	DOR:ORB1	DOR:ORB1	DOR:ORB1	DOR:AD:ORP	DOR
SURNAME ▶	JDNeighbors	WJRoss	ASchwencer	WPGammill	DGEisenhut
DATE ▶	01/27/80	01/23/80	01/25/80	01/25/80	01/ /80