

JAN 21 1982

Docket No. 50-275

Pacific Gas & Electric Company
P. O. Box 7442
San Francisco, California 94120

IE HQ FILE COPY



Attention: Mr. Philip A. Crane, Jr.
Assistant General Counsel

Gentlemen:

An inherent problem has been discovered with the new (4 wire) Emergency Notification System (ENS) telephone circuit. The problem is described below along with a simple method of prevention which should be used until telephone engineers complete equipment modifications.

After a call has been established (the originator of the call makes no difference) and terminated on the ENS circuit, the telephone circuit for the facility called will "lock up" if a receiver is picked up at that facility before the circuit light is off. This results in the facility not being able to call out on the ENS circuit and the NRC Headquarters not being able to call the facility. After "lock up" occurs a telephone serviceman will be required to disconnect and reconnect the phone circuit at the Headquarters switchgear. For example:

The NRC Headquarters calls an operating power reactor plant for daily plant status. The reactor facility answers the call and gives the necessary information, after which, both parties hang up. The facility operator, realizing that he forgot to give some item of information quickly picks up the ENS phone in an effort to catch the NRC Headquarters before Headquarters hangs up their phone. This type of action results in "lock up".

To prevent "lock up" from occurring, the facilities should ensure that a second call is not established within 20 seconds after the original call has terminated. NRC Headquarters will be monitoring all ENS phone line indicators and will inform the facility when lock up occurs and provide a commercial phone number to use to contact NRC Headquarters. In addition, the NRC will contact the telephone company and initiate the necessary action to release the "lock up".

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Telephone company engineers have found a solution to permanently correct the "lock up" problem. Until the "fix" can be applied, we will appreciate your cooperation in helping us minimize ENS phone circuit "lock up" so that the integrity of the Emergency Notification System will not be jeopardized.

Sincerely,

ORIGINAL SIGNED BY
R. S. SPENCER
R. H. Engelken
Regional Administrator

bcc: DMB/Document Control Desk (RIDS)

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J. L. Crews; G. S. Spencer; H. E. Book; D. M. Sternberg; K. Scown



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