

March 1, 1979

Mr. Eldon J. Brunner, Chief
Reactor Operations and Nuclear Support Branch
United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Region I
631 Park Avenue
King of Prussia, PA. 19406

RE: Docket No. 50-220
Inspection Report 79-01

Dear Mr. Brunner:

This refers to the inspection conducted by Mr. Architzel of your office on January 16-19, 1979 at the Nine Mile Point Nuclear Station #1. The following is submitted in response to the alleged infraction detailed in Appendix A of your letter dated February 7, 1979:

"Technical Specification 6.13.1.b states "b. Each High Radiation Area in which the intensity of radiation is greater than 1000 mrem/hr shall be subject to the provisions of 6.13.1(a) above, and in addition locked doors shall be provided to prevent unauthorized entry into such areas and the keys shall be maintained under the administrative control of the Shift Supervisor on duty".

Contrary to the above, the Southeast door to the Turbine Building Condenser Bay was not locked on January 18, 1979. The intensity of radiation is as high as 1200 mrem/hour in this area."

RESPONSE

The Southeast door to the Condenser Area on Elevation 277' was closed, but not locked, enabling the door to be opened without a key. The locking mechanism of this door, contrary to that of high radiation doors generally, allowed removal of the key with the mechanism in an unlocked configuration. The lock was replaced with the proper lock for this application.

As of February 12, 1979, all high radiation area gate locking mechanisms throughout the station had been examined and modified or replaced as necessary to ensure they cannot be left in the unlocked position when either accessed with the appropriate key or egressed with the interior "knob".

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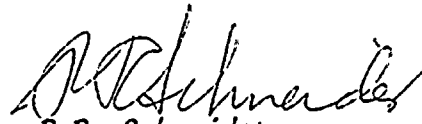
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RESPONSE (continued)

This gate was confirmed to be closed and locked on the Surveys of High Radiation Area Gates performed at 1100 on 1/15/79, 1030 on 1/17/79, and 1530 on 1/19/79. Since the tour on which the gate was found unlocked occurred in the early afternoon of 1/18/79, the period of time when this door could have been unlocked is limited to approximately 26 to 28 hours.

The locking mechanism replacement or modification identified above will prevent recurrence of this noncompliance. Full compliance was achieved as of February 12, 1979.

Very truly yours,


R.R. Schneider
Vice President -
Electric Production

EWL/mtm

