

NORMAN W. CURTIS  
Vice President-Engineering & Construction  
821-5381

March 31, 1980

Mr. Boyce H. Grier  
Director, Region I  
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
631 Park Avenue  
King of Prussia, Pennsylvania 19406

SUSQUEHANNA STEAM ELECTRIC STATION  
INTERIM REPORT OF A DEFICIENCY ON  
PACIFIC VALVE, INC. CHECK VALVES  
ERs 100450/100508      FILE 840-4  
PLA-466

Dear Mr. Grier:

This letter serves to confirm information provided by telephone to NRC Inspector Mr. R. Gallo by A. R. Sabol of PP&L on February 22, 1980. During that conversation, Mr. Gallo was advised that the subject condition was under evaluation for reportability under the provisions of 10CFR50.55(e).

The deficiency originally involved six each 12-inch cast carbon steel swing check valves with disc/body interferences which prevented closure of the valves and an additional valve cited because it would not close by gravity when installed in a vertical position.

These conditions were originally documented by Bechtel on NCR 3466 and subsequently resulted in MCAR 1-47 being issued on February 22, 1980. In an interim response to the MCAR, Bechtel Engineering attributes the cause of the defects to casting and/or machining aberrations which combine to create an unfavorable tolerance stackup. This condition results in interference between disc and internal body contours.

In addition to the valves listed on NCR 3466, other check valves supplied by Pacific Valve have also been identified as suspect and are being handled accordingly.

The corrective action plan for the deficiency, as outlined in the MCAR, includes factory repairs for the defective valves and provisions for factory examination of future production valves.

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Some of these defective check valves are required for the proper function of SSES systems such as RHR and Core Spray pumps. They are installed in a vertical position in discharge piping. Failure of any one of these valves could cause pump damage and the loss of the Engineered Safety Feature function for that train. If this deficiency were to have remained uncorrected, it could have affected adversely the safe operation of the plant. Therefore, these deficiencies are deemed reportable under 10CFR50.55(e).

Since the details of this report provide information relevant to the reporting requirements of 10CFR21, this correspondence is considered to also discharge any formal responsibility PP&L may have for reporting in compliance thereto.

We expect to issue a final report on this deficiency by June, 1980.

Very truly yours,



N. W. Curtis  
Vice President-Engineering & Construction

ARS:mcb

cc: Mr. Victor Stello (15)  
Director-Office of Inspection & Enforcement  
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Washington, D.C. 20555

Mr. G. McDonald, Director  
Office of Management Information & Program Control  
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Washington, D.C. 20555

Mr. Robert M. Gallo  
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
P. O. Box 52  
Shickshinny, Pennsylvania 18655

