

NORMAN W. CURTIS
Vice President-Engineering & Construction-Nuclear
770-5381

January 16, 1981

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

SUSQUEHANNA STEAM ELECTRIC STATION
UPDATE ON REPORTABLE DEFICIENCY
INVOLVING STATES COMPANY SLIDING LINKS
ERs 100450/100508 FILE 840-4/900-10
PLA-611

Reference: PLA-499 dated June 23, 1980

Dear Mr. Grier:

This letter supplements the information provided in the above reference. PLA-499 advised the NRC of a potentially significant deficiency involving States Company sliding links.

The deficiency involves a defect in the "U"-shaped link on the sliding link terminal block. The defect occurs in the form of a crack between the threaded screw hole and the side of the "U"-shaped link. The defect was the subject of NRC Information Notice 80-08.

Bechtel has concluded its initial sampling inspection program, specification 8856-E-157, which was designed to determine the extent of the defective links. Of the 500 sliding links sampled, 26 exhibited various defects as defined in the specification.

The results of the sampling program (Spec E-157) will be evaluated along with the results of the seismic and hydrodynamic testing (Spec E-403) performed by Wyle Labs on the sliding links. The links are used in Class 1E circuits and their failure and subsequent loss of electrical current carrying capacity could lead to a loss of safety system operability. The extensive evaluation necessary to establish the adequacy of the links to perform their intended function provides the basis for our determination that the condition is reportable under 10CFR50.55(e).

Mr. Boyce H. Grier

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PP&L is developing a corrective action plan which includes cycling the "U"-link screw on the terminal blocks. This cycling process is intended to identify defective links. PP&L Integrated Starting Group (ISG) will be responsible for conducting the cycling plan on Unit 1 and common links using ISG Technical Procedure 1.31 Rev. 0. Bechtel Construction will perform the cycling operations on Unit 2 links under Field Procedure E-8.

We expect to provide a final report on the condition in May, 1981.

Very truly yours,



N. W. Curtis
Vice President-Engineering & Construction-Nuclear

FLW:sab

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

Mr. G. McDonald, Director (1)
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, PA 18655