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CURTIS, N. M. Pennsylvania Power & Light Co.

RECIPIENT AFFILIATION

GRIER, B.H. Region 1, Philadelphia, Office of the Director

SUBJECT: Interim deficiency rept re Automatic Switch Co solenoid valves, initially reported on 810317. Solenoid valves installed contain internals which are susceptible to swelling & deterioration. Addl info by June 1981.

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

May 4, 1981

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 RELATING TO
AUTOMATIC SWITCH COMPANY (ASCO) SOLENOID VALVES
ERS 100450/100508 FILES 840-4/821-10
PLA-749



Dear Mr. Grier:

This letter serves to provide the Commission with an interim report of a deficiency involving Automatic Switch Company solenoid valves. The deficiency was originally reported by telephone to NRC Region I Reactor Inspector, Mr. L. Narrow, by Mr. A. R. Sabol of PP&L on March 17, 1981. During that conversation, Mr. Narrow was advised that the condition was being evaluated for reportability under the provisions of 10 CFR 50.55(e).

PPGL Nuclear Plant Engineering is currently investigating the condition and, based upon results to date, has determined the condition to be reportable under the provisions of 10 CFR 50.55(e).

Specifically, it has been determined that ASCO solenoid valves installed at Susquehanna SES, contain internals which are susceptible to swelling and deterioration when brought into contact with oils. Contamination of these solenoid valves has been experienced in the Reactor Building Chilled Water system. In this system, ASCO solenoid valves are used to control the operation of air-operated, containment isolation valves. These air operated containment isolation valves include a component used as a filter-lubricator-regulator (the source of the oil) which is contaminating these ASCO solenoid valve internals.

PPEL Nuclear Plant Engineering has determined that failure of the ASCO solenoid valves could result in a failure of the associated Reactor Building Chilled Water system isolation valves to close. Based upon a failure sequence of this nature, the deficiency, had it gone undetected, could have adversely affected safe operation of the plant.

3 1/0 Mr. Boyce H. Grier

PP&L Nuclear Plant Engineering has further determined that similar conditions may exist in the Standby Gas Treatment and Liquid Radwaste Collection Systems.

Investigation is currently in progress to identify all ASCO solenoid valves which could be susceptible to an oil environment and to replace these valve internals with consideration toward information provided in NRC IE Information Notice No. 80-11.

Since the details of this report provide information relevant to the reporting requirements of 10 CFR 21, this correspondence is considered to also discharge any formal responsibility PP&L may have in compliance thereto.

We expect to provide additional information on this deficiency in June, 1981. We trust the Commission will find this report to be acceptable.

Very truly yours,

N. W. Curtis

Vice President-Engineering & Construction-Nuclear

WHG:sab

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