



Regulatory

File Cy.

METROPOLITAN EDISON COMPANY



POST OFFICE BOX 542 READING, PENNSYLVANIA 19603

August 26, 1975
GQL 1411



Dr. D. F. Knuth, Director
Office of Inspection and Enforcement
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, DC 20555

Subject: Three Mile Island Nuclear Station Unit 2
Docket No. 50-320

Dear Dr. Knuth:

On July 24, 1975, Mr. L. Narrow of your office was verbally notified of a situation which we do not consider reportable in accordance with 10CFR50.55(e) but which was reported for information only. This letter provides additional information concerning the subject situation.

Description of Incident

As a result of a visual examination of some Reactor Building cable trays it was noted that approximately 75% of all Reactor Building cable trays exhibited mechanical damage and poor paint adhesion. The cable trays were examined in the areas where the coating had peeled off and the surface preparation in these areas did not appear adequate. A subsequent investigation revealed that the cable tray vendor had chemically prepared the surface for painting instead of grit blasting the surface to white metal, as required by the paint vendor's technical bulletin. An estimated 1200 linear feet of tray had been installed in the Reactor Building before the condition was noted.

Analysis of Safety Implications

Tests run by GPU Service Corporation to verify the adequacy of nuclear coatings in the Reactor Building under a sodium thiosulfate atmosphere were conducted using the coating methods specified by the paint vendor, including surface preparation by grit blasting. Since no definite tests were conducted by GPU Service Corporation using a chemical surface preparation there is no assurance that the existing coating on the cable tray would withstand the sodium thiosulfate atmosphere.

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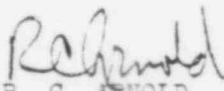
Corrective Action

Upon identification of the coating inadequacy, site Deviation Report No. 0490 was initiated. The discrepant cable tray was removed from the Reactor Building and recoated to comply with the specified requirements.

The GPU Service Corporation Quality Assurance Group was tasked with verifying that the requirements of the paint vendor's technical bulletin were being followed during the recoating of the subject cable tray. An uninstalled discrepant cable tray was returned. A review is being conducted to verify all other coatings used inside containment are acceptable.

Further information and documentation associated with the recoating of the cable trays will be available at the site for your inspection.

Very truly yours,


R. C. ARNOLD
Vice President

RCA/RSB:mo

cc: Director, Office of Inspection and
Enforcement, Region 1

File: 7.7.3.6.2/20.1.1

DEFECTIVE WESTINGHOUSE TYPE W-2 CONTROL SWITCH COMPONENT

Recent inspection findings indicate a possible safety problem may exist in plants employing Westinghouse Type W-2 control switches. The information is as follows:

A. Description of Circumstances

Plant A

By notification from Westinghouse Nuclear Service Division, dated February 8, 1973, the licensee was informed of a defect in certain Westinghouse Type W-2 control switches. Repair kits were ordered to replace the defective components. Inspection of the replacement parts, prior to installation, revealed 8 of 14 pull levels (metal discs with expansion pins inserted) to be cracked. None of the replacement parts were installed.

Plant B

Following the same notification from Westinghouse as above, repair kits were ordered to replace the defective component. Replacement parts were installed in forty switches. One pull lever was found cracked during installation and discarded. Two spare repair kits were retained. At the request of the Atomic Energy Commission the pull levers in these two spare kits were inspected. One of the two was found to be cracked.

B. Action Requested

1. If these switches are used in safety systems in your plant please notify this office, within 30 days of receipt of this Bulletin, in writing, of the extent of such use and the actions you plan to take or have taken to correct the problem with the original W-2 switches and to assure that repair parts are not defective. If corrective actions have not been completed, it is requested that your scheduled date of completion be provided.
2. If this matter does not apply to your plant, a negative report is requested.