



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
REGION IV
611 RYAN PLAZA DRIVE, SUITE 1000
ARLINGTON, TEXAS 76012

TERMINAL

June 22, 1979

In Reply Refer To:
Docket No. 50-188

Kansas State University
Department of Nuclear Engineering
ATTN: Dr. R. E. Faw, Director
Nuclear Reactor Facility
Manhattan, Kansas 66502

Gentlemen:

The enclosed IE Circular 79-09, is forwarded to you for information. If there are any questions related to your understanding of the suggested actions, please notify the contact listed in the enclosure to the circular.

Sincerely,


Karl V. Seyffert
Director

Enclosures:

1. IE Circular No. 79-09
2. List of IE Circulars
Issued in Last
12 Months

267 003

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UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
OFFICE OF INSPECTION AND ENFORCEMENT
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555

IE Circular No. 79-09
Date: June 22, 1979
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OCCURRENCES OF SPLIT OR PUNCTURED REGULATOR DIAPHRAGMS IN CERTAIN SELF-CONTAINED BREATHING APPARATUS

Description of Circumstances:

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) has been informed by mailgram (copy enclosed) from the National Institute of Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) of the high rate of regulator diaphragm failures in the Scott Air Pak II/IIA and Presur-Pak II/IIA self-contained breathing apparatus. The failures, ranging from pin holes in the diaphragm to complete diaphragm rupture, have been identified in about 10 percent of the units by the NIOSH field survey. Tests of the Scott apparatus by NIOSH showed reduced respiratory protection in the Demand-Mode and a loss of service time (but no loss of protection) in the Pressure Demand-Mode.

Notice to Licensees:

Many major licensees use the types of Scott apparatus described above. Users of the devices should take the following action:

1. Establish a program for examination of the described respiratory devices in accordance with the enclosed NIOSH mailgram; or
2. Incorporate the provisions of the NIOSH mailgram into your current program for inspection of the described devices.

No written response to this Circular is required. If you require additional information regarding this subject, please contact the individual specified in the enclosed mailgram.

Enclosure:
Mailgram

267 004

DUPLICATE DOCUMENT

Entire document previously entered
into system under:

ANO 7906290237

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