



UNITED STATES  
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION  
REGION I  
631 PARK AVENUE  
KING OF PRUSSIA, PENNSYLVANIA 19406

June 26, 1979

TEBA

TEBA

Docket No. 50-293

Boston Edison Company M/C Nuclear  
ATTN: Mr. G. Carl Andognini, Manager  
Nuclear Operations Department  
800 Boylston Street  
Boston, Massachusetts 02199

Gentlemen:

The enclosed IE Circular 79-10 is provided as an early notification of a possibly significant matter. It is expected that recipients will review the information for possible applicability to their facilities. No specific action or response is requested at this time. If further NRC evaluations so indicate, an IE Bulletin will be issued to recommend or request specific licensee actions. If you have questions regarding this matter, please contact this office.

Sincerely,

*James M. Allan*  
Boyce H. Grier  
Director

Enclosures:

1. IE Circular No. 79-10
2. List of IE Circulars Issued  
in Last Twelve Months

cc w/encls:

- P. J. McGuire, Pilgrim Station Manager  
A. Z. Roisman, Natural Resources Defense Council

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ENCLOSURE 1

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

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Date: June 26, 1979  
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PIPEFITTINGS MANUFACTURED FROM UNACCEPTABLE MATERIAL

Description of Circumstances:

Liberty Equipment and Supply Company of Kennewick, Washington and Tube Turns Division, Chemetron Corporation of Louisville, Kentucky reported on April 4 and 12, 1979, respectively, that potentially defective pipe fittings were manufactured from material with a high carbon content beyond the range allowed by ASTM A-234 WPB. These high carbon content fittings may crack when welded.

Tube Turns received 3.500 OD x .250W pipe from U. S. Steel - Lorain - identified as U. S. Steel Heat No. N570028. A total of 28,153 feet was received and identified by Tube Turns as Lot W6719. U. S. Steel has not been able to determine the exact number of lengths of pipe of incorrect chemistry, but indicated it could be at least four lengths. From this pipe, 4" - 90 degrees and 45 degrees - .237 wall elbows and 2" - .237 wall straight tees, ASTM A-234 WPB, were produced by Tube Turns. Each length of pipe is twenty feet and makes from 20 to 30 fittings. Approximately 27,000 fittings were produced and each is identified by Tube Turns Lot No. W6719. Shipment of these fittings started in March of 1978, and it is estimated all were shipped before the end of 1978.

On May 10, 1979, the Tube Turns Division reported to the NRC that 4" elbows, Lot W6719, have been provided to the nuclear power plants listed below. U.S. Steel has tested about one hundred and fifty (150) loose and installed fittings at the seven sites noted by an asterisk.

*Grand Gulf	*Zimmer	*Phipps Bend	*Waterford III
*Brown's Ferry	Midland	Limerick	
Shoreham	*LaSalle	Sequoyah	
*Brunswick	Hartsville	Bellefonte	298 014

On June 1, 1979, the Tube Turns Division reported to the NRC via telephone that of the 160 fittings tested at Nuclear Power Plants, three (3) pieces were found to have a high carbon content and were replaced.

All construction permit holders are advised to conduct a review of their pipefitting receiving documents for tube turns and determine if fittings manufactured and identified as Tube Turn Lot W6719. If they were received, appropriate corrective

DUPLICATE DOCUMENT

Entire document previously entered into system under:

ANO 7907020171

No. of pages: 6

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No written response to this circular is required, if you require additional information regarding this subject, contact the Director of the appropriate NRC Regional Office.

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ENCLOSURE 2

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LISTING OF IE CIRCULARS ISSUED IN  
LAST TWELVE MONTHS

Circular No.	Subject	First Date of Issue	Issued To
78-12	HPCI Turbine Control Valve Lift Rod Bending	6/30/78	All Power Reactor Facilities with an Operating License (OL) or Construction Permit (CP) having a HPCI Terry Turbine
78-13	Inoperability of Multiple Service Water Pumps	7/10/78	All Power Reactor Facilities with an OL or CP, except those located in: AL, AK, CA, FL, GA, LA, MS, SC
78-14	HPCI Turbine Reversing Chamber Hold Down Bolting	7/17/78	All Power Reactor Facilities with an OL or CP having a HPCI Terry Turbine excepting Duane Arnold and Monticello
78-15	Tilting Disk Check Valves Fail to Close with Gravity in Vertical Position	7/24/78	All Power Reactor Facilities with an OL or CP
78-16	Limiter Valve Actuators	7/26/78	All Power Reactor Facilities with an OL or CP
78-17	Inadequate Guard Training/Qualification and Falsified Training Records	10/13/78	All Power Reactor Facilities with an OL; Susquehanna 1 & 2, Shoreham, and Salem 2

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LISTING OF IE CIRCULARS ISSUED IN  
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Circular No.	Subject	First Date of Issue	Issued To
78-18	UL Fire Test	11/6/78	All Power Reactor Facilities with an OL or CP
78-19	Manual Override (Bypass) of Safety Systems Actuation Signals	12/29/78	All Power Reactor Facilities with a CP
79-01	Administration of Unauthorized Byproduct Material to Humans	1/12/79	All Medical Licensees, except Teletherapy Medical Licensees, and all Licensee Radio-pharmaceutical Distributors
79-02	Failure of 120 Volt Vital AC Power Supplies	1/16/79	All Power Reactor Facilities with an OL or CP
79-03	Inadequate Guard Training/Qualification and Falsified Training Records	2/23/79	All Holders of and Applicants for Special Nuclear Material Licenses in Safeguards Group I
79-04	Loose Locking Nut on Limitorque Valve Operators	3/16/79	All Power Reactor Facilities with an OL or CP
79-05	Moisture Leakage in Stranded Wire Conductors	3/20/79	All Power Reactor Facilities with an OL or CP

LISTING OF IE CIRCULARS ISSUED IN  
LAST TWELVE MONTHS

Circular No.	Subject	First Date of Issue	Issued To
79-06	Failure to Use Syringe and Bottle Shields in Nuclear Medicine	4/19/79	All Holders of Medical Licenses Except Teletherapy Licenses
79-07	Unexpected Speed Increase of Reactor Recirculation MG Set Resulted in Reactor Power Increase	5/2/79	All BWR Power Reactor Facilities with an OL or CP
79-08	Attempted Extortion- Low Enriched Uranium	5/18/79	All Fuel Facilities and Licensed Reactors
79-09	Occurrences of Split or Punctured Regulator Diaphragms in Certain Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus	6/22/79	All Materials Priority I, Fuel Cycle and Operating Reactor Licensees