NORTHEAST UTILITIES



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MARIA

May 14, 1979 Docket No. 50-336

Mr. Boyce H. Grier Director, Region I Office of Inspection and Enforcement U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission 631 Park Avenue King of Prussia, Penn. 19406

Dear Sir:

This letter responds to IE Bulletin 79-09 regarding failures of GE Type AK-2 circuit breakers in safety related systems.

Millstone Unit 2 utilizes AK-2 style breakers in a number of applications. However the only breakers which utilize the undervoltage trip device are the breakers controlling power to the Control Element Assemblies (CEA). These breakers open to allow the CEA's to insert into and shut down the reactor.

These breakers are subject to a formal preventive maintenance program to assure their proper operation, were all inspected and tested during the current outage, and were all determined to be fully suitable for safety related service. Prior to the bulletin evaluation the program was such that approximately one third of the breakers would be overhauled during each subsequent refueling outage.

As a result of the review of the GE Service Advice letter which accompanied the bulletin, our maintenance procedures will be revised to reflect the additional maintenance items recommended. This will be accomplished prior to the next refuel outage scheduled in June of 1980.

During that outage all the affected breakers will be overhauled per the revised procedure, and a rotating schedule program will be initiated afterwards.

All maintenance activities on these breakers are performed by qualified personnel in accordance with written procedures based on the manufacturer's instruction manual.

Very truly yours,

Northeast Nuclear Energy Company

W. G. Counsil

Vice President

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