



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

TIC

July 13, 1979

In Reply Refer To:

RIV

Docket Nos. 50-498/IE Circular No. 79-13
50-499/IE Circular No. 79-13

Houston Lighting & Power Company
ATTN: Mr. E. A. Turner, Vice President
Power Plant Construction and
Technical Services
Post Office Box 1700
Houston, Texas 77001

Gentlemen:

The enclosed IE Circular No. 79-13, is forwarded to you for information. No written response is required. Should you have any questions related to your understanding of this matter, please contact this office.

Sincerely,

Karl V. Seyfrit
Karl V. Seyfrit
Director

Enclosures:

1. IE Circular No. 79-13
2. List of IE Circulars Issued
in Last 12 Months

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

IE Circular No. 79-13
Date: July 13, 1979
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REPLACEMENT OF DIESEL FIRE PUMP STARTING CONTACTORS

Description of Circumstances:

On May 28, 1978, the Diesel Fire Pump failed to start remotely at Davis-Besse, Unit 1 facility operated by Toledo Edison Company. The cause for failure was defective starting contactors. A subsequent investigation into the cause of a similar failure on January 18, 1978, at Commonwealth Edison Company's Dresden 2/3 Diesel Fire Pump identified a generic problem with Cummins Industrial Fire Pump Engines.

Discussion:

The investigation revealed that Cummins Engine Company issued a Service/Parts Topics No. 74T 13-3A announcing new components available for Industrial Fire Pumps (NH-220-1F, N-855-F, N-855-F1, NT-855-F2 series engines) to improve operation of inline 6 cylinder Industrial Fire Pump Engines. In this topic, Cummins recommends that when replacing the 118848 magnetic switch and 199573 DC relay contactor, use the new 217588 magnetic switch. The new design component has a 6 ampere draw, whereas the old combination has approximately 3 amperes draw. Davis Besse and Dresden sites have implemented the corrective action recommended by Cummins.

Recommended Actions for Licensees' Consideration:

All holders of operating licenses or construction permits should be aware of the potential problem of the type discussed above. Because of the generic implications in this matter, it is recommended that both licensees of operating facilities and holders of construction permits conduct a review to determine if the above diesel fire pump engines are in use or planned for use at your facility(ies). If these engines are in use or planned for use, determine if the Cummins type 118848 Magnetic Switch and 199573 DC relay contactors are also employed. For those engines which have these components, develop a program for their replacement with the new 217588 Magnetic Switch.

No written response to this Circular is required. For more information regarding these matters, contact the NRC Regional Office.

Enclosure:
Cummins Service/Parts Topics
No. 74T 13-3A

DUPLICATE DOCUMENT

Entire document previously entered
into system under:

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