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July 6, 1979
GQL 0880

Mr. B. H. Grier, Director
Region 1
Office of Inspection and Enforcement
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
King of Prussia, PA 19406

Dear Sir:

Three Mile Island Nuclear Station, Unit 1 (TMI-1)
Operating License No. DPR-50
Docket No. 50-289
I&E Bulletin 79-11

Attached please find our response to the subject bulletin, which concerns faulty overcurrent trip devices.

Sincerely,

J. G. Herbein
Vice President
Generation

JGH:WSS:mrm

Attachment

cc: Office of Inspection and Enforcement
Division of Reactor Operations Inspection
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, D.C. 20555

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Three Mile Island Nuclear Station, Unit 1 (TMI-1)
Docket No. 50-289
Response to IE Bulletin 79-11

1. Determine whether circuit breakers of the above described manufacturer and type with overcurrent trip devices are in safety related Class IE service or in spares at your facilities.

   Response: DB 50 circuit breakers with series overcurrent devices are used on TMI-1. There are no DB 75 circuit breakers used on TMI-1.

2. If the subject breakers are in service in safety-related systems: within 30 days, review the existing test data for all overcurrent trip device calibrations since plant startup or since replacement caps were installed and tested in response to Bulletin 73-1, whichever is most recent. Determine if any delay times are: (1) outside of the acceptance band; (2) marginally acceptable on the low side of the acceptance band; or (3) if any significant change in delay time performance has been observed. These breakers should be retested and end caps replaced as necessary to assure no loss of safety function.

   Response: The data from previous tests was reviewed. Some trip times were on the low side of the trip band. All DB-50 breakers required for emergency equipment will be tested prior to startup.

3. Inspect all end caps in spares for cracks using at least a 3x magnifying glass. Caps having visible flaws should be discarded, or prevented from use in Class IE applications.

   Response: End caps on overload devices in spares have been inspected. 10 of 39 had minor flaws, chips on the outer edges of the inside surface. None were noted that would appear to affect operation. The devices will not be used until the caps are determined to be satisfactory or replaced.

4. Review test procedures and test schedules for all safety-related circuit breakers to assure that all such breakers are tested at least each refueling outage to confirm overcurrent time delay protection.

   Response: The test procedure (PM-E5) has been reviewed and revised. The preventive maintenance schedule has been revised to schedule safety related breaker testing on a refueling interval.