



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
REGION II
101 MARIETTA ST., N.W., SUITE 3100
ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30303

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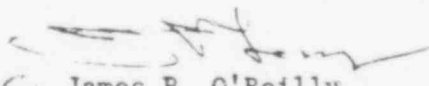
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Tennessee Valley Authority
ATTN: H. G. Parris
Manager of Power
500A Chestnut Street Tower II
Chattanooga, Tennessee 37401

Gentlemen:

The enclosed Bulletin 79-05C and 79-06C is forwarded to you for action. Written responses are required. If you desire additional information regarding this matter, please contact this office.

Sincerely,


James P. O'Reilly
Director

Enclosure:

1. IE Bulletin Nos. 79-05C
and 79-06C
2. Listing of IE Bulletins Issued
In Last Twelve Months

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cc w/encl:

G. G. Stack, Project Manager
Post Office Box 2000
Daisy, Tennessee 37319

J. M. Ballentine
Plant Superintendent
Post Office Box 2000
Daisy, Tennessee 37319

J. F. Cox
400 Commerce Street
W10C131 C
Knoxville, Tennessee 37902

D. L. Lambert, Project Engineer
400 Chestnut Street Tower II
Chattanooga, Tennessee 37401

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

July 26, 1979

IE Bulletin Nos. 79-05C & 79-06C

NUCLEAR INCIDENT AT THREE MILE ISLAND - SUPPLEMENT

Description of Circumstances:

Information has become available to the NRC, subsequent to the issuance of IE Bulletins 79-05, 79-05A, 79-05B, 79-06, 79-06A, 79-06A (Revision 1) and 79-06B, which requires modification to the "Action To Be Taken By Licensees" portion of IE Bulletins 79-05A, 79-06A and 79-06B, for all pressurized water reactors (PWRs).

Item 4.c of Bulletin 79-05A required all holders of operating licenses for Babcock & Wilcox designed PWRs to revise their operating procedures to specify that, in the event of high pressure injection (HPI) initiation with reactor coolant pumps (RCPs) operating, at least one RCP per loop would remain operating. Similar requirements, applicable to reactors designed by other PWR vendors, were contained in Item 7.c of Bulletin 79-06A (for Westinghouse designed plants) and in Item 6.c of Bulletin 79-06B (for Combustion Engineering designed plants).

Prior to the incident at Three Mile Island Unit 2 (TMI 2), Westinghouse and its licensees generally adopted the position that the operator should promptly trip all operating RCPs in the loss of coolant accident (LOCA) situation. This Westinghouse position, has led to a series of meetings between the NRC staff and Westinghouse, as well as with other PWR vendors, to discuss this issue. In addition, more detailed analyses concerning this matter were requested by the NRC. Recent preliminary calculations performed by Babcock & Wilcox, Westinghouse and Combustion Engineering indicate that, for a certain spectrum of small breaks in the reactor coolant system, continued operation of the RCPs can increase the mass lost through the break and prolong or aggravate the uncovering of the reactor core.

The damage to the reactor core at TMI 2 followed tripping of the last operating RCP, when two phase fluid was being pumped through the reactor coolant system. It is our current understanding that all three of the nuclear steam system suppliers for PWRs now agree that an acceptable action under LOCA symptoms is to trip all operating RCPs immediately, before significant voiding in the reactor coolant system occurs.

Action To Be Taken By Licensees:

In order to alleviate the concern over delayed tripping of the RCPs after a LOCA, all holders of operating licenses for PWR facilities shall take the following actions:

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Short-Term Actions

1. In the interim, until the design change required by the long-term action of this Bulletin has been incorporated, institute the following actions at your facilities:
 - A. Upon reactor trip and initiation of HPI caused by low reactor coolant system pressure, immediately trip all operating RCPs.
 - B. Provide two licensed operators in the control room at all times during operation to accomplish this action and other immediate and followup actions required during such an occurrence. For facilities with dual control rooms, a total of three licensed operators in the dual control room at all times meets the requirements of this Bulletin.
2. Perform and submit a report of LOCA analyses for your plants for a range of small break sizes and a range of time lapses between reactor trip and pump trip. For each pair of values of the parameters, determine the peak cladding temperature (PCT) which results. The range of values for each parameter must be wide enough to assure that the maximum PCT or, if appropriate, the region containing PCTs greater than 2200 degrees F is identified.
3. Based on the analyses done under Item 2 above, develop new guidelines for operator action, for both LOCA and non-LOCA transients, that take into account the impact of RCP trip requirements. For Babcock & Wilcox designed reactors, such guidelines should include appropriate requirements to fill the steam generators to a higher level, following RCP trip, to promote natural circulation flow.
4. Revise emergency procedures and train all licensed reactor operators and senior reactor operators based on the guidelines developed under Item 3 above.
5. Provide analyses and develop guidelines and procedures related to inadequate core cooling (as discussed in Section 2.1.9 of NUREG-0578, "TMI 2 Lessons Learned Task Force Status Report and Short-Term Recommendations") and define the conditions under which a restart of the RCPs should be attempted.

Long-Term Action

1. Propose and submit a design which will assure automatic tripping of the operating RCPs under all circumstances in which this action may be needed.

Schedule

The schedule for the short-term actions of this Bulletin is:

- Item 1: Effective upon receipt of this Bulletin,
- Item 2: Within 30 days of receipt of this Bulletin,
- Item 3: Within 30 days of receipt of this Bulletin,
- Item 4: Within 45 days of receipt of this Bulletin,
- Item 5: October 31, 1979 (as noted in Table B-2 of NUREG-0578, under Item 3).

A schedule for the long-term action required by this Bulletin should be developed and submitted within 30 days of receipt of this Bulletin.

Reports should be submitted to the Director of the appropriate NRC Regional Office with copies forwarded to the Director, Office of Inspection and Enforcement and the Director, Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation, Washington, D. C. 20555.

Approved by GAO (R0072): clearance expires 7/31/80. Approval was given under a blanket clearance specifically for generic problems.

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LISTING OF IE BULLETINS
ISSUED IN LAST TWELVE MONTHS

Bulletin No.	Subject	Date Issued	Issued To
79-17	Pipe Cracks in Stagnant Borated Water Systems at PWR Plants	7/26/79	All PWR's with operating license
79-16	Vital Area Access Controls	7/26/79	All Holders of and applicants for Power Reactor Operating Licenses who anticipate loading fuel prior to 1981
79-15	Deep Draft Pump Deficiencies	7/11/79	All Power Reactor Licensees with a CP and/or OL
79-14	Seismic Analyses for As-Built Safety-Related Piping System System Piping	6/2/79	All Power Reactor facilities with an OL or a CP OL for action. All BWRs with a CP for information.
79-02 (Rev. 1)	Pipe Support Base Plate Designs Using Concrete Expansion Anchor Bolts	6/21/79	All Power Reactor Facilities with an OL or a CP
79-12	Short Period Scrams at BWR Facilities	5/31/79	All GE BWR Facilities with an OL
79-11	Faulty Overcurrent Trip Device in Circuit Breakers for Engineered Safety Systems	5/22/79	All Power Reactor Facilities with an OL or a CP
79-10	Requalification Training Program Statistics	5/11/79	All Power Reactor Facilities with an OL
79-09	Failures of GE Type AK-2 Circuit Breaker in Safety Related Systems	4/17/79	All Power Reactor Facilities with an OL or CP
79-08	Events Relevant to BWR Reactors Identified During Three Mile Island Incident	4/14/79	All BWR Power Reactor Facilities with an OL

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Bulletin No.	Subject	Date Issued	Issued To
79-07	Seismic Stress Analysis of Safety-Related Piping	4/14/79	All Power Reactor Facilities with an OL or CP
79-06B	Review of Operational Errors and System Misalignments Identified During the Three Mile Island Incident	4/14/79	All Combustion Engineering Designed Pressurized Water Power Reactor Facilities with an Operating License
79-06A (Rev 1)	Review of Operational Errors and System Misalignments Identified During the Three Mile Island Incident	4/18/79	All Pressurized Water Power Reactor Facilities of Westinghouse Design with an OL
79-06A	Review of Operational Errors and System Misalignments Identified During the Three Mile Island Incident	4/14/79	All Pressurized Water Power Reactor Facilities of Westinghouse Design with an OL
79-06	Review of Operational Errors and System Misalignments Identified During the Three Mile Island Incident	4/11/79	All Pressurized Water Power Reactors with an OL except B&W facilities
79-05A	Nuclear Incident at Three Mile Island	4/5/79	All B&W Power Reactor Facilities with an OL
79-05	Nuclear Incident at Three Mile Island	4/2/79	All Power Reactor Facilities with an OL and CP

LISTING OF IE BULLETINS
ISSUED IN LAST TWELVE MONTHS

Bulletin No.	Subject	Date Issued	Issued To
79-04	Incorrect Weights for Swing Check Valves Manufactured by Velan Engineering Corporation	3/30/79	All Power Reactor Facilities with an OL or CP
78-12B	Atypical Weld Material in Reactor Pressure Vessel Welds	3/19/79	All Power Reactor Facilities with an OL or CP
79-03	Longitudinal Welds Defects In ASME SA-312 Type 304 Stainless Steel Pipe Spools Manufactured by Youngstown Welding and Engineering Co.	3/12/79	All Power Reactor Facilities with an OL or CP
79-02	Pipe Support Base Plate Designs Using Concrete Expansion Anchor Bolts	3/2/79	All Power Reactor Facilities with an OL or CP
79-01A	Environmental Qualification of Class IE Equipment (Deficiencies in the Environmental Qualification of ASCO Solenoid Valves)	6/6/79	All Power Reactor Facilities with an OL or CP
79-01	Environmental Qualification of Class IE Equipment	2/8/79	All Power Reactor Facilities with an OL or CP

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