

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

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September 12,1979

Docket No. 50-298

Nebraska Public Power District ATTN: J. M. Pilant, Director Licensing & Quality Assurance Post Office Box 499 Columbus, Nebraska 68601

Gentlemen:

Enclosed is IE Bulletin 79-23 which requires action by you with regard to your power reactor facility with an operating license or a construction permit.

Should you have questions regarding this IE Bulletin or the actions required of you, please contact this office.

Sincerely,

Karl V. Seyfrit Director

Enclosures:

- IE Bulletin No. 79-23
 List of IE Bulletins Issued in the Last Six Months
- cc: L. C. Lessor, Superintendent Cooper Nuclear Station Post Office Box 98 Brownville, Nebraska 68321

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

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POTENTIAL FAILURE OF EMERGENCY DIESEL GENERATOR FIELD EXCITER TRANSFORMER

Description of Circumstances:

Florida Power and Light Company recently reported a problem encountered during a 24-hour full load test of the emergency diesel generators (EDG) at their Turkey Point facility. Approximately 10 hours into the test, the A-EDG tripped due to a differential-relay lockout on B and C phases; the B-EDG was manually stopped, thus interrupting the test at that point in time.

Subsequent investigation and testing by the licensee revealed a design error on both the A and B EDGs which resulted in overheating of the Exciter Power Transformers (EPTs) at sustained high load operation.

The following nameplate data applies to the equipment installed at Turkey Point:

Emergency Diesel Generator

General Mctors (Electro-Motive Division) Model EMD-999-20 Engine-turbocharged, 2 cycle, EMD design 20-645E4 Generator-EMD-design Model A-20

Exciter Power Transformer

GE-single phase Model-9T24Y1004 Serial-MD Cycles-60 KVA 15 Insulation-4160 V

The manufacturer's findings and recommendations regarding the above problem are described below:

"A potential problem can exist if the n the primary windings of the excitation to as the control power transformer (CP

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