

VERMONT YANKEE NUCLEAR POWER CORPORATION

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REPLY TO:
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TELEPHONE 617-366-9011

September 21, 1979

United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Region I
631 Park Avenue
King of Prussia, PA 19406

Attention: Mr. Boyce H. Grier, Director

References: (1) License No. DPR-28 (Docket No. 50-271)
(2) USNRC Letter to VYNPC, dated May 22, 1979;
IE Bulletin 79-11
(3) VYNPC Letter to USNRC, dated July 6, 1979

Gentlemen:

Subject: Faulty Overcurrent Trip Devices in Westinghouse DB-50 Circuit Breakers

In response to Reference (2) we stated in reference (3) Item 4, that we would change end caps, test and calibrate all four of our Westinghouse DB-50 circuit breakers at the forthcoming refueling outage. We also committed to test two of four breakers every subsequent refueling.

We have reviewed our plans for the testing and calibration of the DB-50 breakers and have decided to alter our previous testing scheme. Item 4 of Reference (3) will now read as follows:

4. The integrated ECCS Test will continue to be performed at each refueling outage. In addition, we will test all subject circuit breakers (with new end caps installed) at the forthcoming refueling outage. During the 1980 refueling, we will test again all four DB-50 breakers. If the time current characteristics are acceptable at that time, we will begin a surveillance test interval of once every three years.

If the time current characteristics are unacceptable, we will recalibrate the breakers and plan to test all four at the next subsequent refueling outage.

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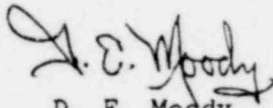
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We believe it is prudent to retest all four breakers to determine the effectiveness of the new end caps. The three year interval is based on an assessment of the effort required to perform the test, the probability that a problem with a breaker will go undetected during the annual ECCS Test, and the good performance history of the breakers over many years of service.

We trust that you will find this information satisfactory; however, if you should require additional information, please contact us.

Very truly yours,

VERMONT YANKEE NUCLEAR POWER CORPORATION

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "D. E. Moody", is written over the typed name.

D. E. Moody
Manager of Operations

dmp

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