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NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
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Tennessee Valley Authority
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Gentlemen:

Enclosed is IE Bulletin No. 80-01 which requires action by you with regard to your BWR power reactor facility(ies) with an operating license.

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

Sincerely,

James P. O'Reilly
Director

Enclosures:

1. IE Bulletin No. 80-01
2. List of Recently Issued
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OFFICE OF INSPECTION AND ENFORCEMENT
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555

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IE Bulletin No. 80-01

OPERABILITY OF ADS VALVE PNEUMATIC SUPPLY

On January 10, 1980, the NRC was informed by Philadelphia Electric Company that engineering evaluation for Peach Bottom 2 and 3 has disclosed that the Automatic Depressurization System (ADS) pneumatic supply (either nitrogen or air) may not be operable for all possible events because of a combination of misapplication of check valve, a lack of leak testing of the accumulator system backing up each ADS valve operator and questions about the continued operability of the pneumatic supply in a seismic event. Attached is a simplified schematic of the pneumatic supply. The check valve nearest to the accumulator is a PAL, three-quarter inch, stainless steel, socket welded check valve with a hard seat (valve identification-B-1376 on the upper flange). Plant information at Peach Bottom shows substantial supports for the pneumatic supply inside the drywell, but seismic qualification has not been verified. The licensee has stated that the pneumatic supply is not seismically qualified outside the drywell.

Unit 2 was shutdown on 1/10/80 because of questions of ADS operability and Unit 3 has been provided a seismically qualified nitrogen supply at the containment penetration pending confirmation of seismic qualification of piping inside Unit 2 containment. The licensee is changing their valve to one with a soft seat to reduce leakage.

Actions to be taken by Licensees of GE BWR facilities with an operating license which use a pneumatic operator for ADS function:

1. Determine if your facility has installed hard-seat check valves to isolate the ADS accumulator system from the pneumatic supply system.
2. Determine if periodic leak tests have been performed on your ADS accumulator systems to assure emergency pneumatic supply for the FSAR-required number and duration of valve operations.
3. Review seismic qualifications of the ADS pneumatic supply system:
 - (a) from accumulator system isolation check valve to ADS valve operator,
 - (b) from isolation valve outside containment up to ADS accumulator check valve.
4. Based upon determination of items of the ADS for the conditions under including a seismic event. If open to appropriate Technical Specifications

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