UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
REGION I
631 PARK AVENUE
KING OF PRUSSIA, PENNSYLVANIA 19406

Docket No. 50-309

NOV 16 1979

Maine Yankee Atomic Power Company
ATTN: Mr. Robert H. Groce
Licensing Engineer
20 Turnpike Road
Westborough, Massachusetts 01581

Gentlemen:

The enclosed IE Information Notice No. 79-28 provides information on the overloading of structural elements due to pipe support loads. If you have any questions regarding this matter, please contact this office.

Sincerely,

James M. Allan for

Boyce H. Grier
Director

Enclosures:
1. IE Information Notice No. 79-28
2. List of Recently Issued Information Notices

CONTACT: L. E. Tripp
(215-337-5282)

cc w/encls:
E. Wood, Plant Superintendent
E. W. Thurlow, President

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ENCLOSURE 1

SSINS No.: 6870
Accession No.: 7910250415

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

IE Information Notice No. 79-28
Date: November 16, 1979

OVERLOADING OF STRUCTURAL ELEMENTS DUE TO PIPE SUPPORT LOADS

Description of Circumstances:

Recently, the NRC was informed that, in the course of the inspections pursuant to IE Bulletin No. 79-02 and 79-14 by the Portland General Electric Co. (PGE) at the Trojan Nuclear Plant, some walls were found which did not have adequate structural strength to sustain the required support reactions. Bechtel Corporation was the Architect Engineer for the plant. These structural inadequacies were reported to be attributable to two deficiencies:

1) Apparent lack of a final check of certain pipe support locations and reactions to ensure that the supporting structural elements possessed adequate structural integrity to sustain the required loads.

2) Inadequate design criteria for the reactions from supports anchored into the face of concrete block walls; e.g., relying on the combined strength of double concrete block walls without positive connection between the two walls by means other than the bond provided by a layer of grout between them.

The NRC is currently pursuing these issues in detail for the Trojan Nuclear Plant to determine the extent of these deficiencies and the generic implications for other Bechtel facilities.

This Information Notice is provided as an early notification of a possible significant matter. It is expected that recipients will review the information for possible applicability to their facilities and the actions being performed under IE Bulletin No. 79-02. Specific action is being requested relating to the adequacy of attachments to concrete block walls under IE Bulletin No. 79-02, Revision 2, item 5.c. No specific actions are requested in response to this Information Notice. If NRC evaluations so indicate, further licensee actions may be requested or required. If you have any questions regarding this matter, please contact the Director of the appropriate NRC Regional Office.

No written response to this IE Information Notice is required.

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ENCLOSURE 2

IE Information Notice No. 79-28
Date: November 16, 1979

RECENTLY ISSUED IE INFORMATION NOTICES

Information Notice No.	Subject	Date Issued	Issued to
79-19	Pipe Cracks in Stagnant Borated Water Systems at PWR Plants	7/17/79	All power reactor facilities with an OL or CP
79-20	NRC Enforcement Policy - NRC Licensed Individuals	8/14/79	All Holders of Reactor OLs and CPs and Production Licensees with Licensed Operators
79-20 (Revision No. 1)	Same Title as 79-20	9/7/79	Same as 79-20
79-21	Transportation and Commercial Burial of Radioactive Material	9/7/79	All power and research reactors with OLs
79-22	Qualification of Control Systems	9/14/79	All power reactor facilities with an OL or CP
79-23	Emergency Diesel Generator Lube Oil Coolers	9/26/79	All power reactor facilities with an OL or CP
79-24	Overpressurization of Containment of a PWR Plant After a Main Steam Line Break	10/1/79	All power reactor facilities with an OL or CP
79-25	Reactor Trips at Turkey Point Unit 3 and 4	10/1/79	All Power Reactor Facilities with an OL or CP
79-26	Breach of Containment Integrity	11/5/79	All Power Reactor Facilities with an OL or CP
79-28	Attempted Damage to New Fuel Assemblies	11/9/79	All Fuel Facilities, Research Reactors and Power Reactors with an OL or CP
79-27	Steam Generator Tube Ruptures at Two PWR Facilities	11/16/79	All Power Reactor Facilities with an OL or CP

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