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UNITED STATES  
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

REGION IV  
611 RYAN PLAZA DRIVE, SUITE 1000  
ARLINGTON, TEXAS 76012

November 16, 1979

In Reply Refer To:

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Docket Nos. 50-458/IE Information No. 79-28

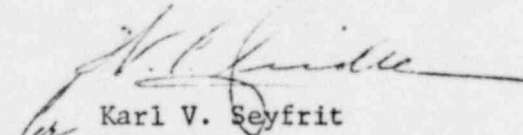
50-459/IE Information No. 79-28

Gulf States Utilities  
Attn: Dr. J. G. Weigand  
General Manager,  
Nuclear Projects  
Post Office Box 2951  
Beaumont, Texas 77704

Gentlemen:

The enclosed IE Information Notice No. 79-28 provides information on the overloading of structural elements due to pipe support loads.

Sincerely,

  
Karl V. Seyfrit  
Director

Enclosures:

1. IE Information Notice No. 79-28
2. Listing of Recently Issued IE Information Notices

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

November 16, 1979

IE Information Notice No. 79-28

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.

LISTING OF IE INFORMATION NOTICES  
ISSUED IN 1979

Information Notice No.	Subject	Date Issued	Issued To
79-20	NRC Enforcement Policy NRC Licensed Individuals	8/14/79	All Holders of Reactor Operating Licenses (OLs) and Construction Permits (CPs), Research Reactors, Test Reactors Licensees with Licensed Operators
79-21	Transportation and Commercial Burial of Radioactive Material	9/7/79	All power and research reactors with Operating License (OL)
79-22	Qualification of Control Systems	9/14/79	All power reactor facilities with an Operating Licenses (OL) and Construction Permits (CP)
79-23	Emergency Diesel Generator Lube Oil Coolers	9/26/79	All power reactor facilities with an Operating License (OL) or Construction Permit (CP)
79-24	Overpressurization of Containment of a PWR Plant After a Main Stream Line Break	9/28/79	All power reactor facilities with a Construction Permit (CP)
79-25	Reactor Trips at Turkey Point Unit 3 and 4	10/1/79	All power reactor facilities with an Operating License (OL) or a Construction Permit (CP)
79-26	Breach of Containment Integrity	11/5/79	All power reactor holding Operating License (OL) and Construction Permits (CPs)
79-12A	Attempted Damage to New Fuel Assemblies	11/19/79	All Fuel Facilities, research reactors, and power reactors with an Operating License (OL) or Construction Permit (CP)

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Enclosure