



THE WM. POWELL COMPANY

2503 Spring Grove Avenue, P.O. Box 14006, Cincinnati, Ohio 45214, U.S.A.
513/852-2000

November 12, 1979

79-168000

United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Region IV
611 Ryan Plaza Drive
Suite 1000
Arlington, Texas 76012

Attention: Mr. K.V. Seyfrit, Director

Reference: Phone conversation of 11/9/79 between Mr. Edwin E. Winterfeldt
and Mr. Joe Loftus of Powell and Mr. Ramon Hall, Duty Officer, NRC.

Dear Mr. Seyfrit:

The following is a confirmation of a verbal report in accordance with NRC Regulation 10CFR Part 21 of a noncompliance to specifications for nuclear valves supplied by the Wm. Powell Company to the Mississippi Power and Light Co., Grand Gulf Nuclear Station, Units 1 and 2, Port Gibson, Mississippi 39150. This nuclear plant is still under construction and therefore, is not in operation. The noncompliance was verified to exist by the Wm. Powell Company on November 9, 1979.

We have supplied Mississippi Power and Light with Class 1, 2, and 3 valves which were, by design specification, to have a minimum natural frequency of 33 hertz. In the process of reviewing the possibility of recertifying these valves to have a minimum natural frequency of 100 hertz, in accordance with a Bechtel proposed specification change, it was discovered that the original calculations were in error. We have determined that the error lies in a computer program which was developed by one of our subcontractors.

We find that this error is not of a fixed magnitude, nor does it disqualify all valves supplied. The error magnitude is dependent upon the geometry of each valve and therefore, necessitates a reanalysis of each qualifying seismic report for this customer. The valves, we know today, that fall below the specification requirement are cylinder operated 8 and 10" figure 1503, Bechtel item numbers 14.11 A through F, 14.21 A through D, and 14.10 A through D, supplied against Bechtel specification 9645-M-242.0.

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POOR ORIGINAL


POWELL VALVES

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November 12, 1979

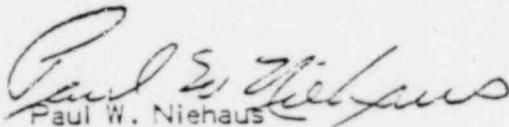
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The Wm. Powell Company's Engineering Department has initiated a project to reanalyze all reported frequencies. This activity is expected to continue for the next six weeks.

The Wm. Powell Company has notified Bechtel Corporation, engineers for Mississippi Power and Light Company, of the above situation and will continue to notify them as additional information is obtained.

Sincerely,

THE WM. POWELL COMPANY


Paul W. Niehaus
V.P., Mfg. & Engineering

PWN/lr

Three copies to: Director, Office of Inspection and Enforcement
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, D.C. 20555

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POWELL VALVES