



UNITED STATES  
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION  
REGION IV  
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February 8, 1979

Docket Nos. 50-368  
50-313

Arkansas Power and Light Company  
ATTN: Mr. William Cavanaugh III  
Executive Director of Generation  
and Construction

Post Office Box 551  
Little Rock, Arkansas 72203

Gentlemen:

Enclosed is IE Bulletin 79-01. It requires action by you with regard to power reactor facilities with an operating license except for the 11 SEP plants which are listed in Enclosure 3.

This Bulletin is also being sent for information to the 11 SEP plants and all power reactor facilities with a construction permit. No action or written response is required for construction permit facilities or the 11 SEP plants.

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

Sincerely,

  
Karl V. Seyfrit  
Director

Enclosures:

1. IE Bulletin No. 79-01
2. List of IE Bulletins  
Issued in the past  
12 months
3. List of SEP Plants (11)

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

IE Bulletin No. 79-01  
Date: February 8, 1979  
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ENVIRONMENTAL QUALIFICATION OF CLASS IE EQUIPMENT

Description of Circumstances:

The intent of IE Circular 78-08 was to highlight to all licensees important lessons learned from environmental qualification deficiencies reported by individual licensees. In this regard, licensees were requested to examine installed safety-related electrical equipment and determine that proper documentation existed which provided assurance that this equipment would function under postulated accident conditions. The scope of IE Circular 78-08 was much broader than other previously issued Bulletins and Circulars (such as IEB 78-04 and IEB 78-02) which addressed specific component failures. The intent of this Bulletin is to raise the threshold of IE Circular 78-08 to the level of a Bulletin; i.e., action requiring a licensee response.

Inspections conducted to date by the NRC of licensees' activities in response to IE Circular 78-08 have identified one component which licensees have found to be unqualified for service within the LOCA environment. Specifically, unqualified stem mounted limit switches (SMLS), other than those identified in previously issued IE Bulletin 78-04, were found to be installed on safety-related valves inside containment at both Duane Arnold and Quad Cities 1 and 2 Nuclear Generating Stations. The unqualified switches are identified as NAMCO Models SL2-C-11, S3CML, SAI-3I, SAI-32, D1200j, EA-700 and EA-770 switches. According to the manufacturer, these switches are designed only for general purpose applications and are not considered suitable devices for service in the LOCA environment. Consequently, switches are being replaced at the above power plants with qualified components.

Also, NRC inspection of component qualification has identified equipment which does not have documentation indicating it is qualified for the LOCA environment. The inspection requires re-review and resolution of the equipment under the attention from all licensees. The NRC is requesting the power reactors to expedite completion of the inspection of the equipment under IE Circular 78-08 dated March 1978.

DUPLICATE DOCUMENT

Entire document previously  
entered into system under:

AND 7902120215

No. of pages: 5

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