

SOUTH CAROLINA ELECTRIC & GAS COMPANY

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COLUMBIA, SOUTH CAROLINA 29218

E. H. CREWS, JR.  
VICE-PRESIDENT AND GROUP EXECUTIVE  
ENGINEERING AND CONSTRUCTION

November 19, 1979

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Mr. James P. O'Reilly, Director  
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Region II, Suite 3100  
101 Marietta Street, N. W.  
Atlanta, Georgia 30303

Subject: Virgil C. Summer Nuclear Station  
Docket No. 50/395  
Reportable Item in Accordance  
with 10CFR50.55(e)

Dear Mr. O'Reilly:

On October 31, 1979 a significant deficiency as defined by 10CFR50.55(e) was reported to Mr. Jack Skolds, NRC resident inspector, by James A. Wactor, Engineer, South Carolina Electric & Gas Company, P. O. Box 764, Columbia, S. C. The deficiency was in the design and procurement of speed and transfer switchgear for component cooling pumps, service water pumps and charging/safety injection pumps. The switchgear was manufactured by ITE.

In the design of the equipment the manufacturer encountered problems meeting the separation requirements of the specification. In order to expedite delivery of the switchgear, the separation requirements were deleted by the A-E, Gilbert Associates, Inc. The intention was to provide the required separation in the field after the equipment was delivered. The planned work was not documented on any work schedule, however, and was overlooked. The problem was later discovered when a QC inspector was inspecting installation of external cables and realized that separation requirements could not be met and that internal separation requirements were violated.

If it had gone undetected, this condition could have resulted in damage to safety related circuits from a short in a non-safety related circuit, or failure of redundant circuits due to an internal fire. Nonconformance Notice (NCN) 734E was written and was partially dispositioned to allow some phase I testing to proceed. A GAI engineer was dispatched to the field to process an Engineering Change Notice (ECN) to correct the problem. The ECN was completed, and the work was done on a rush basis. On September 25, 1979 the NCN was finally dispositioned as being resolved based on the ECN.

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Corrective action will consist of a revision to the Gilbert Associates, Inc. Project Management Manual that will require an ECN number to be assigned immediately, when any change to a bill of material or specification is approved that will require field modification after delivery of the equipment. If the change is made due to a deviation request from the manufacturer, the ECN number will be referenced on the deviation request form and on the certificate of inspection. If necessary, an engineering hold will be placed on the equipment to prevent installation before the ECN is processed.

All modifications to the equipment as a result of this incident have been completed. This is considered to be the final report on this incident.

Very truly yours,

  
E. H. Crews, Jr.

JAW:EHC:rh

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