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E. H. CREWS, JR.
VICE-PRESIDENT AND GROUP EXECUTIVE
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February 11, 1980

Mr. James P. O'Reilly, Director
United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Region II, Suite 3100
101 Marietta Street, N. W.
Atlanta, GA 30303

Subject: Virgil C. Summer Nuclear Station, Unit 1
Reportable Significant Deficiency
Nuclear Engineering File 3.1051

Dear Mr. O'Reilly:

On February 4, 1980, a significant deficiency was reported to Mr. Jack Skolds, NRC resident inspector, by Mr. J. A. Wactor of SCE&G. The deficiency involved electrical conduit supports that were attached to concrete structures with anchor bolts. These supports were required to be installed with certain tolerances so that an additional force would not be exerted on the anchor bolts if the conduit was forced into place.

The deficiency was discovered when field personnel complained about the tolerance imposed and claimed it to be impractical to meet. The original tolerance specified that the supports in the same plane be within 1/4 of an inch. This requirement did not take into account possible bends in the conduit or bends at joints and would require surveyor type instruments to verify.

Since the problem was actually one of limiting the "cold spring" of the conduit and not getting the supports straight, the specifications were changed to measure the offset of the conduit rather than alignment. Also, the amount of "cold spring" allowable was broken down for each size conduit and produced in a table. When this was done, it was discovered that the larger conduits could not be allowed 1/4" of cold spring.

After more study it was realized that the cold spring criteria should also include supports around a bend in the conduit. An investigation was made on the installed conduit in which supports were loosened and the cold spring measured. A total of 71 conduits were found with supports that did not meet the criteria. Some of these conduits were mutually redundant. If this deficiency had gone undetected, the deficient supports could have failed during a seismic event causing loss of redundant functions. Therefore, the deficiency is considered reportable under 10CFR50.55(e).

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Corrective action consists of an engineering change to include the tables developed in the specification, and repair of the deficient supports by shimming or rework. This is now in progress. Based on the actions described above, this is considered to be a final report on the item.

Very truly yours,

E. H. Crews, Jr.

JAW:rm