bcc to DAC:ADM:
CENTRAL FILES
PDR:HQ
LPDR
TIC
NSIC

States

UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
REGION IV
611 RYAN PLAZA DRIVE, SUITE 1000
ARLINGTON, TEXAS 76012

March 7, 1980

Docket No. 50-267

Public Service Company of Colorado
ATTN: Mr. C. K. Millen
Senior Vice President
P. O. Box 840
Denver, Colorado 80201

Gentlemen:

This IE Information Notice is provided as notification of a potentially significant matter. It is expected that recipients will review the information for possible applicability to their facilities. No specific action or response is requested at this time. If further NRC evaluations indicate the need, an IE Circular or Bulletin will be issued to request specific licensee actions. If you have questions regarding this matter, please contact the Director of the appropriate NRC Regional Office.

Sincerely,

K. V. Seyfrit
Director

Enclosures:
1. IE Information Notice
No. 80-08
2. List of Recently Issued
IE Information Notices

cc: D. W. Warembourg, Nuclear Production
Manager
Fort St. Vrain Nuclear Station
P. O. Box 368
Platteville, Colorado 80651

L. Brey, Manager, Quality Assurance

SSINS: 6870
Accession No.:
7912190689

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

IE Information Notice No. 80-08
Date: March 7, 1980

THE STATES COMPANY SLIDING LINK ELECTRICAL TERMINAL BLOCK

Description of Circumstances:

On July 19, 1979, the Consumers Power Company notified the Nuclear Regulatory Commission of a defect found in the sliding link electrical terminal block manufactured by the States Company, a subsidiary of Multi Amp Corp. The defective terminal blocks were found at the Midland plant.

The connection between the two slotted bars on the terminal block is made by a U-shaped sliding link and spacer located between the two bars. The top of the U-shaped link and the spacer are drilled and the bottom of the link is threaded to accept a 8-32 screw. When the screw is tightened it binds the link, spacer and bar together to make electrical connection. Loosening the screw and sliding the link from between the bars breaks the connection. The purpose of the link is to provide easy insertion of test instruments, etc. into the circuit.

The defect, which has been identified in 5% of the terminal blocks checked, occurs in the form of a crack between the threaded screwhole and the side of the U-shaped link. When the screw is tightened the crack widens and a poor or intermittent electrical connection can result. A defective link is impossible to cinch tightly in place and is difficult to detect visually.

Enclosure 1 shows the States Company terminal block. The defect, a crack in the bottom portion of the metal U-shaped link, is displayed in the exploded view of the terminal block assembly. These terminal blocks are widely used in the nuclear industry and may be used as permanent installations in safety related systems. The defective mechanical connection can cause an electrical circuit malfunction.

This Information Notice is provided to inform licensees of a potentially significant matter. It is expected that recipients will review the information for applicability to their facilities. No written response to this IE Information Notice is required. However, the reporting requirements as set forth in the regulations must be met. If you require additional information regarding this matter, contact the Director of the appropriate NRC Regional Office.

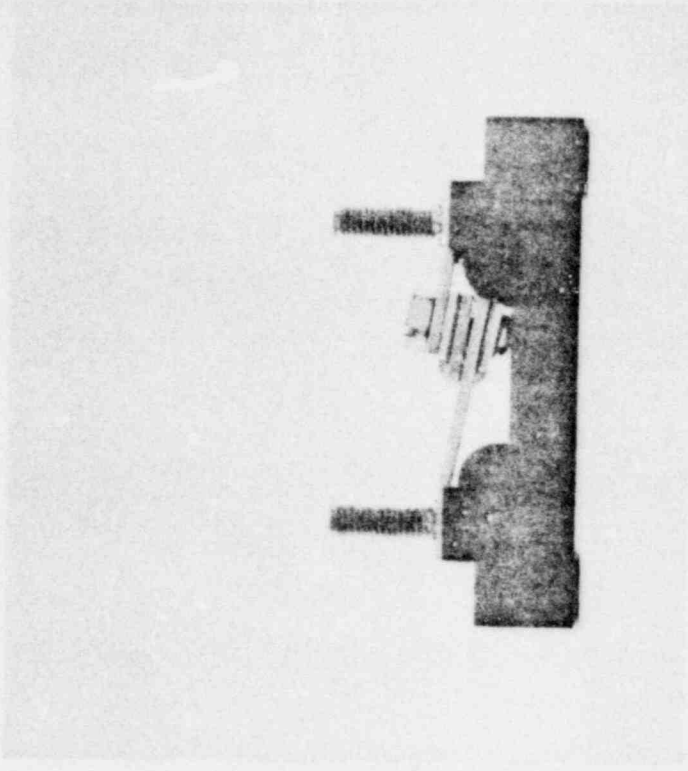
Enclosure:
Graphic Display of Terminal
Block

IE Information Notice No. 80-09
March 7, 1980

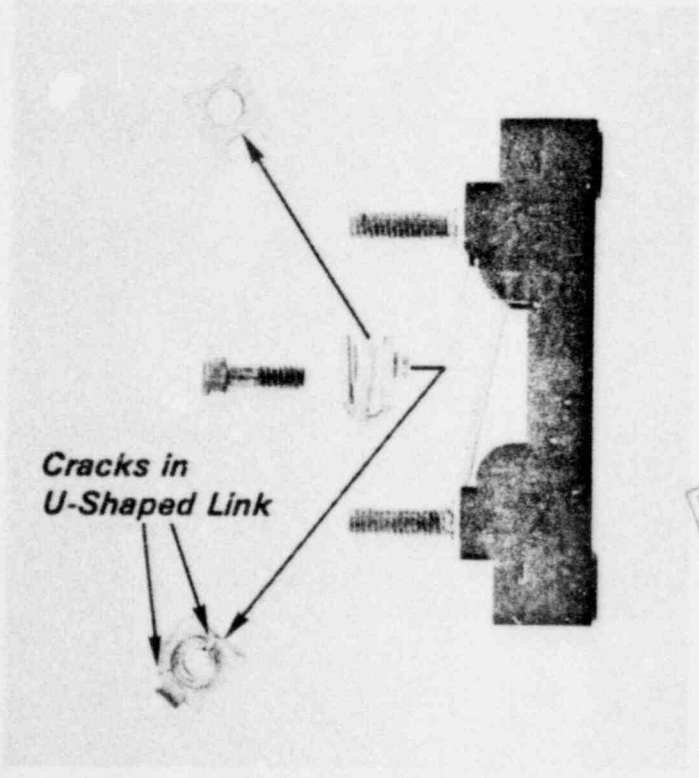
LISTING OF RECENTLY ISSUED
IE INFORMATION NOTICES

Information Notice No.	Subject	Date Issued	Issued To
80-02	8X8R Water Rod Lower End Plug Wear	1/25/80	All BWR Facilities holder of power reactor Operating Licenses (OLs) or Construction Permits (CPs)
80-03	Main Turbine Electro-Hydraulic Control System	1/31/80	All holders of power reactor Operating Licenses (OLs) and Construction Permits (CPs)
80-04	BWR Fuel Exposure in Excess of Limits	2/4/80	All BWR's holding a power reactor Operating License (OL) or Construction Permit (CP)
80-05	Chloride Contamination of Safety Related Piping and Components	2/8/80	All licensees of nuclear power reactor facilities and applicants and holders of nuclear power reactor Construction Permit (CP)
80-06	Notification of Significant Events	2/27/80	All holders of Reactor Operating Licenses (OLs) and to near term Operating Licenses (OL) applicants
80-07	Pump Shaft Fatigue Cracking	2/29/80	All Light Water Reactor Facilities holder power reactor Operating Licenses (OLs) and Construction Permits (CPs)
80-08	The States Company Sliding Link Electrical Terminal	3/7/80	All power reactor facilities with an Operating License (OL) or a Construction Permit

Enclosure



Side View of States Company
Terminal Block in Assembled Position



Exploded View of
States Company Terminal Block