

LOUISIANA POWER & LIGHT COMPANY

WATERFORD SES UNIT NO. 3

FINAL REPORT OF SIGNIFICANT DEFICIENCY NO. 11

SWITCHGEAR BREAKER

POSITION SWITCH OPERATOR DEFECT

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SIGNIFICANT DEFICIENCY REPORT NO. 11
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INTRODUCTION

This report is submitted pursuant to 10 CFR 50.55(e) (3). It describes a deficiency in the 4.16 KV switchgear supplied by General Electric Company for Louisiana Power & Light's Waterford Steam Electric Station Unit No. 3.

DESCRIPTION

On October 6, 1978, General Electric Company advised Ebasco Services, Inc. of a defect in the design of the breaker position switches found in the 4.16 KV switchgear on Waterford 3.

The extent of the deficiency is as follows: Each 4.16 KV switchgear feeder cubical is provided with a breaker position switch. This device is located in the rear of the breaker compartment and is mechanically operated by the breaker. General Electric Company found that this breaker position switch operator may become bent due to interference with the circuit breaker. The interference causes a distortion in the breaker position switch operator, and further operation of the breaker results in a completely damaged operator and an inoperative breaker position switch function.

SAFETY IMPLICATION

The purpose of the breaker position switch operator is to isolate the controls during test and prevent inadvertent remote operation of the power circuit breaker. The deficiency "bent breaker position switch operator" could possibly disconnect both close and trip control power supplies to breaker and prevent remote manual and automatic operation of the breaker thereby disabling the operation of Engineered Safety Feature pumps, fans, etc.

CORRECTIVE ACTION

All thirty-three (33) breaker position switch operators of the 4.16 KV switchgear have been replaced with newly designed switch operator assemblies supplied by the manufacturer, General Electric Company. The new switch operators are more rigid and have guides to prevent bending, which could have been realized with the original equipment. Neither the switch nor its wiring had to be disturbed to replace the operator assemblies and add the guides.

All corrective action work for this significant deficiency has been completed and reinspection has been accomplished.