

UNITED STATES NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION REGION II 230 PEACHTREE STREET, N.W. SUITE 1217 ATLANTA GEORGIA 30303

APR 5 1977

In Reply Refer To: IE:II:NCM 50-369 50-370 50-269 50-270 50-287

> Duke Power Company ATTN: Mr. William O. Parker, Jr. Vice President of Steam Production 422 South Church Street P. O. Box 2178 Charlotte, North Carolina 28242

Gentlemen:

The enclosed Circular is being distributed for information, in the belief that the subject matter is of sufficient safety significance to warrant specific attention. A reply is not requested.

Sincerely,

Norman C. Moseley Director

Enclosure: IE Circular 77-06 "Effects of Hydraulic Fluid on Electrical Cables"

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Date: April 5, 1977

IE Circular 77-06 Page 1 of 1

EFFECTS OF HYDRAULIC FLUID ON ELECTRICAL CABLES

DESCRIPTION OF CIRCUMSTANCES:

Commonwealth Edison Company, by letter to the NRC dated April 1, 1976, (copy enclosed), described the circumstances under which fire resistant hydraulic fluid had a deleterious effect on the insulation and jacketing of electrical cables. While the solvent characteristics of phosphateester fire resistant fluids are well documented in literature, it appears that this information may not be generally available to nuclear power plant operating staffs. Our evaluation of this occurrence emphasizes the importance of:

- Reviewing design and operating procedures for systems containing synthetic hydraulic fluids and other potentially aggressive fluids to minimize the probability of leakage, overflow or inadvertant spill or fluid.
- Reviewing housekeeping practices to assure that they provide for prompt cleanup of spills or leakage of any type of fluid.

Enclosure: Letter from Commonwealth Edison Co. to J. Keppler, Director, Region III dtd. 4/1/76

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