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UNITED STATES  
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20555

AUG 3 1979

NOTE TO: William Parler  
FROM: Richard Hartfield  
SUBJECT: ABNORMAL OCCURRENCE EVENTS - B&W PLANTS

This note is in response to your note of July 18, 1979.

1. Are there any abnormal occurrence reports for:

a. TMI-2?

Only the March 28, 1979 event.

b. TMI-1?

None.

c. Any B&W plant: Yes

- (1) Degraded Engineered Safety Systems AO 79-1 at Arkansas 1.
- (2) Steam generator tube integrity AO-76-11 (updated) Oconee units.
- (3) AO-79-3 (TMI-2)

d. Any PWR:

Of 28 reactor abnormal occurrences since January, 1975, 16 have been at PWR's, 9 at BWR's, and 1 at an HTGR and two at both PWR's and BWR's.

2. Issue debated but not determined to be abnormal occurrence:

This question is not easy to answer. During the A.O. determination process, any office can propose an AO. MPA does some initial checking and may respond to an office, disagreeing and the matter can drop right there. At other times and if it appears to be a "gray area" it is sent to staff to review.

Again, the process can be terminated if the majority feel it is not an A.O.

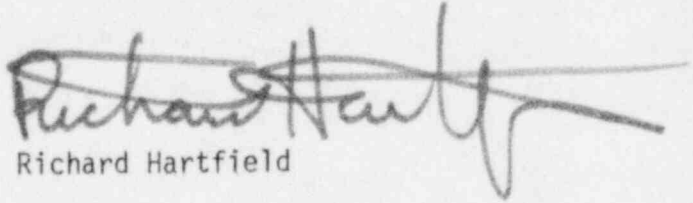
I do not have a list of all events that have been proposed by any office, but I do not remember any that were peculiar to B&W plants--most being one time events particular to a plant, not an NSSF.

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As part of the Commission Paper forwarding each A.O. Quarterly, we list examples of events considered, but determined not to be A.O.'s. This is for the Commission's information and to help better define the A.O. reporting threshold.

Recently, A.O. reports have also included events that are "other events of interest" not A.O.'s, but events that may be perceived to be A.O.'s by the public. In early 1978, the event at Crystal River 3 regarding burnable poison rod assembly failure was reported to Congress as an Appendix "C" event.

  
Richard Hartfield