

UNITED STATES
ATOMIC ENERGY COMMISSION
DIVISION OF COMPLIANCE
REGION II - SUITE 818
230 PEACHTREE STREET, NORTHWEST
ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30303

TELEPHONE: (404) 526-4503

LC

In Reply Refer to:
CO:II:50-313 and 368

December 9, 1971

Arkansas Power and Light Company
Attn: Mr. J. D. Phillips
Vice President and Chief
Engineer
Sixth and Pine Streets
Pine Bluff, Arkansas 71601

Gentlemen:

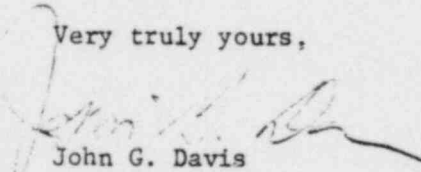
We recently received information from two licensees operating pressurized water reactors which may relate to the future performance of reactor scram circuit breakers in your facility.

This letter provides you with a copy of the body of the letter that was forwarded to the licensees of operating pressurized water reactors by cognizant Regional offices of the Division of Compliance.

No action on your part is required; however, we will review this matter during our continuing inspection program.

Should you have any questions concerning this matter, we will be pleased to discuss them with you.

Very truly yours,


John G. Davis
Director

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BODY OF LETTER TO LICENSEES OF OPERATING PRESSURIZED WATER REACTORS

We recently received information relating to the performance of reactor scram circuit breakers from two licensees operating pressurized water reactors. The reactor scram circuit breakers are Westinghouse, type DB-50. The information is as follows:

Plant A

Three failures to operate occurred at this facility. Each failure involved the undervoltage trip attachment. No common mode of failure could be identified. One failure was attributed to a broken latch pin, the second to mechanical binding of the trip lever, and the cause of the third was not specifically identified.

Plant B

Two of the two reactor scram circuit breakers failed to trip on undervoltage during surveillance testing. The failure to trip was attributed to dirt accumulation on exposed linkages. This failure occurred after completion of inspection of the scram breakers to determine the applicability of the problems observed at Plant A.

It is requested that you inform this office within ten days, in writing, whether reactor scram circuit breakers of the described make and model are installed in your facility. If the answer to this question is in the affirmative, provide the date when each of your reactor scram circuit breakers will be inspected and tested. In addition, it is requested that you inform this office within ten days, in writing, following completion of your inspection and test, of your specific findings, including a description of corrective action taken or planned and the scheduled completion date of planned actions.

Should you have any questions concerning this matter, we will be pleased to discuss them with you.

Letter to Arkansas Power and Light Company
dated December 9, 1971