



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

Jea

August 15, 1980

Docket No. 50-312

Mr. J. J. Mattimoe
Assistant General Manager and
Chief Engineer
Sacramento Municipal Utility District
6201 S Street
P. O. Box 15830
Sacramento, California 95813

Dear Mr. Mattimoe:

In our review of the Crystal River Unit No. 3 (CR-3) event of February 26, 1980, the staff identified a situation in which the failure of the non-nuclear instrumentation (NNI) or the integrated control system (ICS) power supply can result in the automatic opening of the atmospheric dump valves (ADV) to the fifty percent open position with a lack of valve position indication. Such an anomaly could significantly aggravate an overcooling transient. The Florida Power Corporation has acknowledged this problem and has committed to provide, prior to restart of CR-3, a manual override closure capability of the ADV.

We have investigated the use of the ADV at other operating B&W plants and found that Rancho Seco and Three Mile Island, Unit No. 1 have a situation similar to CR-3. Our investigation of these two plants indicates that upon loss of ICS power supply the ADVs automatically opens to a fifty percent position. On loss of NNI power the failure mode of the valve depends on the specific mode of power failure.

Based on the above, we conclude that this condition is a design deficiency for both TMI-1 and Rancho Seco and request that corrections be made in a timely manner, including providing a reliable position indication.

Specifically, you are requested to commit to modify your design (or provide acceptable justification), a description (including the appropriate electrical schematic diagrams of the proposed modifications) and an implementation schedule.

We request that you submit your response on this matter within 45 days following receipt of this letter.

Sincerely,

Thomas M. Novak, Assistant Director
for Operating Reactors
Division of Licensing

cc: See next page

Sacramento Municipal Utility
District

cc w/enclosure(s):

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Sacramento Municipal Utility
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