



UNITED STATES  
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION  
REGION III  
799 ROOSEVELT ROAD  
GLEN ELLYN, ILLINOIS 60137

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AUG 20 1980

Docket No. 50-155

Consumers Power Company  
ATTN: Mr. R. B. DeWitt  
Vice President  
Nuclear Operations  
212 West Michigan Avenue  
Jackson, MI 49201

Gentlemen:

This Information Notice No. 80-30 is provided as an early notification of a possibly significant matter. It is expected that recipients will review the information for possible applicability to their facilities. No specific action or response is requested at this time. If further NRC evaluations so indicate, an IE Circular or Bulletin will be issued to recommend or request licensee actions. If you have questions regarding this matter, please contact the Director of the appropriate NRC Regional Office.

Sincerely,

*Charles E. Naele*

for James G. Keppler  
Director

Enclosure: IE Information  
Notice No. 80-30

cc w/encl:  
Mr. D. P. Hoffman, Nuclear  
Licensing Administrator  
Mr. C. J. Hartman,  
Plant Superintendent  
Central Files  
Director NRR/DPM  
Director NRR/DOR  
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UNITED STATES  
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION  
OFFICE OF INSPECTION AND ENFORCEMENT  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555

August 19, 1980

IE Information Notice No. 80-30: POTENTIAL FOR UNACCEPTABLE INTERACTION  
BETWEEN THE CONTROL ROD DRIVE SCRAM FUNCTION  
AND NON-ESSENTIAL CONTROL AIR AT CERTAIN GE  
BWR FACILITIES

Continued NRC evaluation of possible failure modes of the control rod drive system related to the Browns Ferry event (IE Bulletin 80-17), has identified a potentially significant single failure mechanism which could degrade the scram function. The slow loss of non-essential control air pressure could degrade the scram function at certain facilities which have relatively poor communication between the scram discharge volume (SDV) and the scram discharge instrumented volume (SDIV) such that the SDIV drains more rapidly than the SDV drain rate into the SDIV.

The significance of such a single failure warrants transmission of an interim assessment by the NRC Office for Analysis and Evaluation of Operational Data as an early notification of a possibly significant matter that is still under review by the NRC staff. It is expected that recipients will review the information for possible applicability to their facility. No specific action or response is requested at this time. If you have any questions regarding this matter, please contact the Director of the appropriate NRC Regional Office.

Enclosure:  
Memo from C. Michelson to  
H. Denton, dated August 18,  
1980

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