

# Babcock & Wilcox

Power Generation Group

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October 27, 1980

Mr. Victor Stello, Jr. Director  
Office of Inspection and Enforcement  
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
4250 East-West Highway - Room 332  
Bethesda, Md. 20014

Dear Mr. Stello:

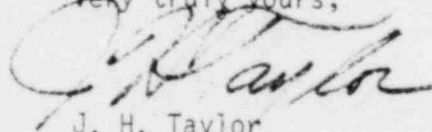
B&W has purchased Fisher Type 546 electro-pneumatic transducers for use in our NSS systems, both in safety-related and non-safety-related applications. These transducers may be mounted directly on the valve actuator diaphragm casing, or with a suitable mounting bracket, may be mounted on a flat surface or bulkhead. Inside the case of the transducer there are two 5/16 x 18 bolts which attach the case to the mounting bracket or directly to a valve. The factory usually bolts a mounting bracket to the transducer prior to shipment so that the user may use it in his installation or remove it if not needed.

During a pre-shipment inspection, B&W observed that the two bolts attaching the mounting bracket to the case were loose, creating an insecure mounting. Investigation revealed that a minimum assembly torque had not previously been specified for these bolts. Fisher has subsequently specified an 11 foot-pound minimum torque and taken measures to assure that all shipments are adequately torqued. The instruction manual for these transducers is also being modified to include a torque requirement for these bolts.

The specific application which was found to be inadequately mounted was not a safety-related application, and therefore the deficiency is not reportable to NRC under the requirements of 10 CFR 21 or 10 CFR 50.55(e). However, B&W will inspect to assure that all safety-related applications of the seismically qualified Fisher No. 546 transducer in B&W plants are inspected for adequate mounting before they are put into service.

We felt it prudent to advise you of the potentially defective mounting in order that installations in non-B&W plants may be reviewed.

Very truly yours,



J. H. Taylor  
Manager, Licensing

JHT/fw  
cc: R. B. Borsum

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