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UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
REGION I
631 PARK AVENUE
KING OF PRUSSIA, PENNSYLVANIA 19406

October 31, 1980

Docket No. 50-271

Vermont Yankee Nuclear Power Corporation
ATTN: Mr. Robert L. Smith
Licensing Engineer
25 Research Drive
Westborough, Massachusetts 01581

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US NRC

Gentlemen:

The enclosed IE Circular No. 80-23, "Potential Defects in Beloit Power Systems Emergency Generators," is forwarded to you for information. No written response is required. If you desire additional information regarding this matter, please contact this office.

Sincerely,

Boyce H. Grier
Boyce H. Grier
Director

Enclosures:

- 1. IE Circular No. 80-23 with one enclosure
- 2. List of Recently Issued IE Circulars

CONTACT: E. G. Greenman
(215-337-5267)

cc w/encls:

- Mr. Warren P. Murphy, Plant Superintendent
- Mr. W. F. Conway, Vice President and Manager of Operations
- Mr. J. E. Griffin, President
- Mr. L. H. Heider, Vice President

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UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
OFFICE OF INSPECTION AND ENFORCEMENT
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20555

October 31, 1980

IE Circular No. 80-23 : POTENTIAL DEFECTS IN BELOIT POWER SYSTEMS EMERGENCY GENERATORS

BACKGROUND

This circular addresses a potential deficiency involving the field leads of generators manufactured by Beloit Power Systems. It is known that the subject generators have been coupled with Fairbanks Morse diesel engines for use in nuclear power facilities; however, it is not known whether they have been coupled with other diesel engines for such use. Accordingly, the intent of this circular is to notify all nuclear power facilities of the potential defect and to assure that appropriate remedial actions are taken, if needed.

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission was first informed of the potential defect by a phone call from Mr. R. H. Beadle of the Fairbanks Morse Engine Division of Colt Industries to Mr. D. W. Hayes of Region III on September 19, 1980. On September 20, 1980, a conference call was held between the NRC Duty Officer, personnel from Prairie Island Nuclear Power Station, Mr. Beadle of Fairbanks Morse and Mr. C. Evenson of Beloit Power Systems, the principal spokesman. The purpose of this call was to describe an inspection method which Prairie Island personnel could use to examine the field lead assemblies of their generators for the potential defect. (We have since been informed by the Resident Inspector that the field lead assemblies of the Prairie Island generators did not have the suspected defects.)

In order to disseminate this information on a timely basis, the NRC Duty Officer at Bethesda called those operating facilities which he knew were using the suspect generators on September 20 and 21, 1980. The information conveyed included a description of the potential defect and a description of the aforementioned inspection method. The operating facilities called were:

FACILITY	NO. OF UNITS
Calvert Cliffs 1 and 2	3
Crystal River 3	2
Hatch 1 and 2	5
Duane Arnold	2
North Anna 1 and 2	4
Millstone 1 and 2	3
Robinson 2	
Prairie Island	
Vermont Yankee	
Peach Bottom 2 and 3	
Arkansas Nuclear One, Unit 2	

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