MISSISSIPPI POWER & LIGHT COMPANY
Helping Build Mississippi
P. O. BOX 1640, JACKSON, MISSISSIPPI 39205

JAMES P. McGAUGHY, JR.
ASSISTANT VICE PRESIDENT

January 16, 1981

Office of Inspection & Enforcement
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Region II
101 Marietta Street, N.W.
Suite 3100
Atlanta, Georgia 30303

Attention: Mr. J. P. O'Reilly, Director

Dear Mr. O'Reilly:

SUBJECT: Grand Gulf Nuclear Station
Units 1 and 2
Docket Nos. 50-416/417
File 0260/15525/15526
PRD-80/08, Final Report, Limitorque
Valve Operator Malfunctions
AECM-81/33

References: 1) AECM-80/74, 4/11/80
2) AECM-80/165, 7/23/80
3) AECM-80/271, 11/3/80

On March 14, 1980, Mississippi Power & Light Company notified Mr. F. Cantrell, of your office, of a Potentially Reportable Deficiency (PRD) at the Grand Gulf Nuclear Station (GGNS) construction site. The deficiency concerns malfunctions of Limitorque valve operators.

Our investigation has concluded that this deficiency is not reportable within the meaning of 10CFR50.55(e). It has been determined that this was an isolated incident on non-safety related equipment as is further explained in the attached final report.

Yours truly,

For J. P. McGaughy, Jr.

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CWH:mt
Attachment

cc: Mr. N. L. Stampley
Mr. R. B. McGehee
Mr. T. B. Conner

Mr. Victor Stello, Director
Div. of Insp. & Enforcement
U. S. Nuclear Reg. Comm.
Washington, D.C. 20555

Mr. G. B. Taylor
South Miss. Electric
Power Association
P. O. Box 1589
Hattiesburg, MS 39401

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FINAL REPORT FOR PRD-80/08

I. Description of Deficiency

The concern involves Limitorque valve operators (type SMB) with valve stem protectors which are excessively threaded and may cause the valve to malfunction. When the valve is operated electrically, the stem protector acts as a jam-nut against the stem lock nut, which causes the torque switch to trip the motor on high opening torque.

The valve suppliers fabricate and install the stem protectors on the Limitorque operators at their shop. The Constructor, in their coordination with the valve suppliers, determined that the stem protectors are designed to be hand tightened only when installed. The concern was identified on the condensate, feedwater and condensate cleanup systems during generic testing of non-safety related valves.

II. Safety Implications

As a result of testing, it was determined that the original problem identified was an isolated incident on non-safety related equipment. Had it remained uncorrected, there would have been no adverse affect on the safety of plant operations throughout the expected lifetime of the plant.

Therefore, the condition does not meet the reporting criteria of 10CFR50.55(e).

III. Corrective Actions Taken

An investigation and evaluation of "Q" valves with stem protectors was conducted to determine the effect on safety of operations.

The Constructor's Checkout and Turnover Organization (CTO) mechanical group tested fifty motor operated valves and determined that the identified condition had been an isolated incident. Details of the corrective action are available under the Constructor's Management Corrective Action Report (MCAR) #65 at the GGNS site.