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UNITED STATES  
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION  
REGION V

1990 N. CALIFORNIA BOULEVARD  
SUITE 202, WALNUT CREEK PLAZA  
WALNUT CREEK, CALIFORNIA 94596

August 27, 1980

Docket Nos. 50-133, 50-275, 50-323

Pacific Gas and Electric Company  
77 Beale Street  
San Francisco, California 94106

Attention: Mr. Philip A. Crane, Jr.  
Assistant General Counsel

Gentlemen:

This Information Notice is provided as a notification of a matter of possible safety significance. It is expected that recipients will review the information for possible applicability to their facilities, and where applicable, consider the recommended action. If you have questions regarding this matter, please contact the director of this office.

Sincerely,

R. H. Engelen  
Director

Enclosures:

- 1. IE Information Notice  
No. 80-31
- 2. Recently issued IE  
information Notices

cc w/enclosures:

- J. D. Shiffer, PG&E
- W. Raymond, PG&E
- R. Ramsay, PG&E, Diablo Canyon
- E. Weeks, PG&E, Humboldt Bay
- E. B. Langley, Jr., PG&E

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

August 27 , 1980

IE Information Notice No. 80-31: MALOPERATION OF GOULD-BROWN BOVERI 480  
VOLT-TYPE K-600S AND K-DON 600S CIRCUIT  
BREAKERS

Description of Circumstances:

The Cincinnati Gas & Electric Company reported problems with the Gould-Brown Boveri Type K-600S and K-DON 600S circuit breakers used in 480 volt a.c. circuits at the William H. Zimmer nuclear stations. The problem involved inadvertent circuit breaker closure during operation of the breaker charging springs when the breaker was racked out to the test position.

The problem resulted from the use of undersized bushings in the circuit breaker secondary close latches. The undersized bushings caused the secondary close latch to hang-up on the shunt trip device resulting in an inadvertent circuit breaker closure when the spring charging motor was energized.

The vendor has stated that the problem does not exist during normal operations with the circuit breaker in the connected position.

Recommended Action for Licensees and Holders of Construction Permits:

All licensees of operating nuclear power reactors and holders of construction permits should be aware of the potential problems described above. The vendor has stated that a small number of circuit breakers were assembled with undersized secondary latch bushings between 1969 and 1977. It is recommended that the following actions be taken:

- (1) Determine if the subject circuit breakers are installed in any safety-related application at your facility. The affected circuit breakers are manufactured by Gould-Brown Boveri and are types K-600S and K-DON 600S, 480-volt a.c. electrically operated, draw-out type with static trip device.
- (2) If it is determined that your facility has the circuit breakers described in Item (1) above, perform the K-600S, K-DON 600S Field Test Procedure attached to this information notice (Gould-Brown Boveri I.B.-9.1.7-6 Issue F, Addendum 2, dated March 4, 1980).
- (3) If maloperation of the circuit breaker field test procedure described in Item (2) action described in the attached field test procedure, install a 0.050 shim to the secondary close latch.

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