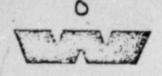
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AFOD	MVB :	7602	LOEB / MPA	MB 5715	NMSS / SG SS-	-881
NRR/	DOE		AEOD	MB 7602	LOEB / MPA N	Nb 5715
NRR/	DSI		ASLBP E/W	450	AEOD N	NB 7602
NRR/	DST		SAP/SP. MB-	-7210A	ASLBP E/W	450
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SWENSON

50-324/325

DIVISION OF WHITING CORPORATION HARVEY, ILLINOIS 60426 U.S.A. AREA CODE 312-331-4000

September 3, 1980 S-2920 Regn. 70346-48

Director, Region II U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission 101 Marietta Street Suite 3100 Atlanta, Georgia

Gentlemen:

The Swenson Division of Whiting Corporation wishes to advise the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) of a problem which Carolina Power & Light Company (Carolina) recently has experienced with a Swenson Calandria Type Radioactive Waste Evaporator installed at its Southport, North Carolina facility. Although Swenson does not believe that the problem involves a reportable defect as defined in 10 C.F.R. Section 21, we deem it appropriate to notify NRC of the problem's existence.

In recent weeks, Swenson answered certain questions raised by Carolina concerning methods of welding to repair leaks in the evaporator vessel (which Carolina had shut down), and subsequently sent a representative to Southport to inspect the vessel prior to the making of repairs. To confirm the soundness of the repairs when made, Carolina hydrostatically tested the evaporator, and advised Swenson on August 8, 1980 that the test results revealed leaks in the heat exchanger tubes, leading to speculation on Swenson's part that the evaporator's exchanger shell, body and tubes had been subjected to corrosive attack (possibly by sea water or brackish water) and that a leak of radioactive material could result.

Accordingly, Swenson advised Carolina by talex on August 12, 1980 that the evaporator had to be thoroughly inspected and, repaired prior to its reactivation. On the following day, Swenson telephoned the NRC's Regional Office in Atlanta, Georgia and informed NRC's Mr. Richard Lewis of the situation.

Our latest information of this matter is that Carolina has kept the evaporator unit out of service pending repair of the leaks in the tubes and shel has asked us to notify it of the cost of a replacement heat exchanger, cost of which we are now preparing.

The following is a complete list of Swenson Radioactive Waste Evaporators currently installed throughout the world:

Director, Region III U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission September 3, 1980 5-2920 Regn: 70346-48

Location

Commonwealth Edison Company Dresden Plant

Enel Senn, Italy

Niagara Mohawk Power Corporation 9 Mile Point, New York

Tarapur Atomic Power Pro :t Tarapur, India

General Electric Nuclenor, Spain

Jersey Central Power & Light Co. Oyster Creek, New Jersey

Hitachi Japan

Carolina Power & Light Company (Brunswick Station) USA

Louisiana Power & Light Company Taft, Louisiana USA (3 Units)

Commonwealth Edison (2 Units) Dresden II and III, USA

Washington Public Power Supply System Washington, USA (4 Units)

Portland Public Power Supply System Portland, Oregon (2 Units)

Washington PUblic Power Supply System Washington, USA (4 Units)

Type

Natural Circulation, LTV 25,000 pph Capacity

Natural Circulation, LTV

Natural Circulation, LTV 6,000 pph Capacity

Natural Circulation, LTV 3,000 pph Capacity

Natural Circulation, LTV 5,000 pph Capacity

Natural Circulation, LTV 7,500 pph Capacity

Natural Circulation, LTV 6,300 pph Capacity

Calandria 50 GPM Capacity

Calandria 20 GPM Capacity

Calandria 25 GPM Capacity

Calandria 20 GPM Capacity

Calandria 20 GPM Capacity

Forced Circulation 10 GPM Capacity

Yours very truly,

SWENSON

Div. of Whiting Corporation

Bennett ision Manager