



Consumers
Power
Company

General Offices: 212 West Michigan Avenue, Jackson, Michigan 49201 • (517) 788-0550

March 13, 1981

Mr James G Keppler
Office of Inspection and Enforcement
Region III
US Nuclear Regulatory Commission
799 Roosevelt Road
Glen Ellyn, IL 60137



DOCKET 50-155 - LICENSE DPR-6 -
BIG ROCK POINT PLANT - RESPONSE TO
IE BULLETIN NO 81-01 - SURVEILLANCE
OF MECHANICAL SNUBBERS

IE Bulletin No 81-01 dated January 27, 1981, requested Consumers Power Company to provide a schedule for an inspection program covering mechanical snubbers. This request resulted mainly from several instances of failures of mechanical snubbers supplied by International Nuclear Safeguards Corporation (INC).

Big Rock Point (BRP) does not have any snubbers manufactured by INC; therefore, those actions of the bulletin relating to INC snubbers are not considered applicable. All (13) mechanical snubbers at BRP are manufactured by Pacific Scientific Corporation. As noted in the bulletin, LER 79-017 (May 10, 1979) identified improper installation of the snubbers in that a spherical washer was omitted from the transition tube. This problem was identified by visual inspection. Subsequently, all mechanical snubbers were visually inspected and two were functionally tested satisfactorily in the presence of Mr I T Yin, NRC inspector. It is also our understanding that the Trojan Plant has functionally tested satisfactorily fifty of their Pacific Scientific snubbers. Therefore, it is our determination that no immediate action is required to assure continued operability of the BRP snubbers.

In response to the request of this bulletin, we have scheduled visual inspection and functional testing for the BRP snubbers to be performed at the next refueling outage. The next refueling outage is currently scheduled to occur in the first quarter of 1982.

Gregory C. Withrow

Gregory C Withrow
Senior Licensing Engineer

CC Director, Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation
Director, Office of Inspection and Enforcement
NRC Resident Inspector - Big Rock Point

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CONSUMERS POWER COMPANY
Big Rock Point Plant

IE Bulletin No 81-01

Docket No 50-155
License No DPR-6

At the request of the Commission and pursuant to the Atomic Energy Act of 1954, and the Energy Reorganization Act of 1974, as amended and the Commission's Rules and Regulations thereunder, Consumers Power Company submits our response to IE Bulletin No 81-01, dated January 27, 1981, entitled, "Surveillance of Mechanical Snubbers". Consumers Power Company's response is dated March 13, 1981.

CONSUMERS POWER COMPANY

By

R B DeWitt 3/11

R B DeWitt, Vice President
Nuclear Operations

Sworn and subscribed to before me this 13th day of March 1981.

Helen I. Dempski

Helen I Dempski, Notary Public
Jackson County, Michigan

My commission expires December 14, 1983.