



MISSISSIPPI POWER & LIGHT COMPANY

USNRG Helping Build Mississippi

P. O. BOX 1640, JACKSON, MISSISSIPPI 39205

NUCLEAR PRODUCTION DEPARTMENT

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July 31, 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-80/10, Status Report
No. 5, Unqualified Insulation
Repairs in Rockbestos
Supplied Cable
AECM-81/274

- References: 1) AECM-81/71, 2/18/81
2) AECM-80/311, 12/16/80
3) AECM-80/221, 9/16/80
4) AECM-80/81, 4/18/80

On March 21, 1980, Mississippi Power & Light Company notified Mr. M. Mendonca of the NRC in Washington of a Potentially Reportable Deficiency (PRD) at the Grand Gulf Nuclear Station (GGNS) construction site. The deficiency concerns unqualified cable insulation repairs in cables supplied by Rockbestos Company.

We are continuing our evaluation of this deficiency. Qualification tests for materials used in insulation repair are partially complete. A status report is attached. Our final report on this matter, which will include a determination of reportability, will be provided to you by November 9, 1981.

Yours truly,

Handwritten signature of J. P. McGaughey, Jr.

J. P. McGaughey, Jr.

KDS:scb
ATTACHMENT

cc: See page 2

Handwritten notes: IE27, 5/1

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Member Middle South Utilities System

Mr. J. P. O'Reilly  
NRC

AECM-81/274  
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Mr. T. B. Conner

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Mr. D. L. Hunt  
Mr. A. G. Wagner  
Mr. P. A. Taylor  
PRD File  
File

Status Report No. 5 for PRD-80/10

I. Description of the Deficiency

Qualification of cable insulation repair material used on cables manufactured and supplied by Rockbestos Company is questionable. The insulating material used on the factory repair was different than that originally used on the cable and does not appear to meet the specification requirements of IEEE 323 or 383.

During evaluation of the deficiency, as it applies to products of other manufacturers, it was determined that the Kerite Company also may not have evidence of qualification testing of compounds used in factory insulation repair for cables supplied to GGNS. However, we have determined that no Kerite cable is utilized inside the containment, therefore LOCA qualification tests on factory insulation repairs are not required.

The deficiency is applicable only to Unit 1. It is not yet known if it applies to the NSSS vendor.

At present, the manufacturer has not completed tests to determine the qualification of the cable insulation repair material. Until these tests are completed, safety implications and reportability under the provisions of 10CFR50.55(e) and 10CFR21 cannot be addressed. Also, the plant systems that are affected cannot be determined.

II. Approach to Resolution of the Problem

The cause of the deficiency was use of non-qualified cable insulation repair material by Rockbestos. Corrective actions and actions to prevent recurrence will be determined after the results of the qualification tests on the cable insulation repair material are complete by Rockbestos.

III. Status of Proposed Resolution

The cable vendor had stated to our Constructor that all tests would be completed by May 15, 1981. The tests were completed. However, we have discovered that they were not conducted to IEEE 323 or 383 requirements. Rockbestos Company is now required to conduct new tests to qualify the repair material. These tests should be completed by September 1, 1981. The results of the test will determine if other actions are required.

IV. Reason Why A Final Report Will Be Delayed.

Rockbestos Company is still in the process of completing qualification tests.

V. Date When Final Report Will Be Submitted

Depending on the outcome of the tests and their acceptability, we intend to submit a final report by November 9, 1981.