



MISSISSIPPI POWER & LIGHT COMPANY

Helping Build Mississippi

P. O. BOX 1640, JACKSON, MISSISSIPPI 39205

JAMES P. McGAUGHY, JR.
ASSISTANT VICE PRESIDENT

August 20, 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-81/32, Interim Report #1
GE Bulkhead Connectors
AECM-81/305

On July 22, 1981, Mississippi Power & Light Company notified Mr. P. A. Taylor, of your office, of a Potentially Reportable Deficiency (PRD) at the Grand Gulf Nuclear Station (GGNS) construction site. The deficiency concerns GE supplied bulkhead connectors.

Our investigation into this deficiency is continuing. We expect to provide our final report and determination of reportability by October 16, 1981. Attached is our interim report No. 1.

Yours truly,

J. P. McGaughy, Jr.
for J. P. McGaughy, Jr.

KDS:dr
ATTACHMENT

cc: See page 2

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Mr. J. P. O'Reilly
NRC

AECM-81/305
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INTERIM REPORT NO. 1 FOR PRD-81/32

I. Description of the Deficiency

Bulkhead connectors supplied by the NSSS vendor, General Electric, were found to have a high frequency of significant leaking at the connectors during hydrostatic testing. Chasing of the connector threads and the application of pipe sealant did not solve the problem.

The connectors are used on safety-related instrument lines that transmit process parameters from the low pressure core spray system, reactor vessel flange seal, reactor vessel, injection valves, containment and drywell, reactor water cleanup system, residual heat removal system, reactor core isolation cooling system, leak detection system, reactor recirculation system, reactor vessel core plate, jet pumps, standby liquid control system, feedwater control system and the nuclear boiler system.

The deficiency is known to affect Unit 1. We are currently investigating its applicability to Unit 2, safety implications, and reportability under the provisions of 10CFR50.55(e) and 10CFR21. This deficiency does not affect the non-NSSS scope of supply.

II. Approach to Resolution of the Problem

The cause of the problem is a manufacturing defect. It includes all bulkhead connectors supplied by GE at the Grand Gulf Nuclear Station.

To correct the existing deficiency all GE supplied bulkhead connectors were replaced with new connectors from another vendor, Parker Hannifin Corporation, that did not have the leaking problem.

General Electric is currently investigating actions to prevent recurrence.

III. Status of Proposed Resolution

The NSSS vendor is currently investigating safety implications, formulating actions to prevent recurrence, and applicability to Unit 2.

All deficient bulkhead connectors in Unit 1 have been replaced. We expect to have finished our other investigations by September 30, 1981.

IV. Reason Why a Final Report Will be Delayed

The NSSS vendor has not finished their evaluation.

V. Date When a Final Report Will be Submitted

We expect to submit a final report by October 16, 1981.