



MISSISSIPPI POWER & LIGHT COMPANY

Helping Build Mississippi

P. O. BOX 1640, JACKSON, MISSISSIPPI 39205

JAMES P. McGAUGHY, JR.
ASSISTANT VICE PRESIDENT

January 30, 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-80/05, Status Report No. 3,
Electrical Cable Insulation
Damaged During Pulling Process
AECM-81/51

On March 13, 1980, Mississippi Power & Light Company notified Mr. F. Cantrell of your office of a Potentially Reportable Deficiency (PRD) at the Grand Gulf Nuclear Station (GGNS) construction site. The deficiency concerns electrical cable insulation damage sustained during the cable pulling process.

Our study of the extent and implications of this problem is continuing. We expect to provide to you our final report and determination of reportability on this matter by May 19, 1981. Our findings and corrective actions, to date, are summarized in the attached status report.

Yours truly,

for J. P. McGaughy, Jr.

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CWH:mt
Attachment

cc: Mr. N. L. Stampley
Mr. R. B. McGehee
Mr. T. B. Conner

Mr. Victor Stello, Director
Div. of Insp. & Enforcement
U. S. Nuclear Reg. Comm.
Washington, D.C. 20555

Mr. G. B. Taylor
South Miss. Electric
Power Association
P. O. Box 1589
Hattiesburg, MS 39401

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STATUS REPORT NO. 3 FOR PRD-80/05

I. Description of the Deficiency

Cable damage was sustained during the cable pulling process. Two constructor Nonconformance Reports (NCR) have documented this condition in two noted cases of cable damage. In both cases, the damaged cables are associated with Control Room HVAC System (251). The initial findings have indicated that the cables were damaged by the polypropylene pulling rope. The nature of damage ranges from jacket chafing to insulation cut through to the conductor. The condition was noted when all cables were removed from their common conduit to allow the pulling of an additional cable in that conduit.

The deficiency, limited to the damaged items referenced above, would not have adversely affected the safety of plant operations. A statement on the overall safety implications of this deficiency cannot be made until the extent of the problem has been determined.

II. Approach to Resolution of the Problem/Status of Proposed Resolutions

The damaged cables identified in the above mentioned constructor's NCR's have been replaced. This matter is documented and filed under Bechtel Management Corrective Action Report (MCAR)-GGNS No. 64. This file is available for your review at the construction site.

The extent of the problem is currently under review by our constructor. Approximately 400 conduits have been identified and an inspection plan is being formulated. It is expected that the inspection and subsequent engineering evaluation will be completed by the end of April, 1981.

To preclude recurrence of this deficiency, the Project Field Engineer issued an Information Bulletin modifying cable installation practices. A training session was conducted for responsible Field Engineers to identify the problem and provide instructions for the modified pulling practices.

A test to identify damaged cable using polywater and a Hi-pot test has been developed. Twenty "worst case" conduits were selected for the test and results will be analyzed by the Architect/Engineer. Fifteen of the conduits have been tested to date, with no failures due to the cable pulling process.

III. Reasons for Delay in Final Report

Constructor/Architect/Engineer's investigation not complete.

IV. Projected Date of Final Report

We anticipate filing a final report, to include a determination on reportability, on or before May 19, 1981.