

JUL 20 1988

Docket No.: 50-261

MEMORANDUM FOR: E. G. Adensam, Project Director
Project Directorate II-1
Division of Reactor Projects I/II

FROM: Faust Rosa, Chief
Electrical Systems Branch
Division of Engineering & Systems Technology

SUBJECT: H. B. ROBINSON UNIT 2 - ALLEGATION ON TESTING OF THE
INSTANTANEOUS ELEMENT OF MOLDED CASE CIRCUIT BREAKERS
(TAC 68136)

Reference: SER on NUREG-0737, II.E.1.2 Open Item/Automatic Bus
Transfer Feature of Auxiliary Feedwater System
transmitted on January 6, 1988 from K. Eccleston
to E. E. Utley

Plant Name: H. B. Robinson Steam Electric Plant, Unit 2
Utility: Carolina Power and Light Company
TAC No.: 68136
Resp. Directorate: PD II-1/DRP
Project Manager: Ronnie Lo
Review Branch: SELB/DEST

By memo dated May 12, 1988, from O. DeMiranda of Region II, Allegation Coordinator, to D. Brady of NRR, Allegation Program Manager, we were requested to review an allegation which involves performing a test of the instantaneous trip function of molded case circuit breakers (MCCBs). The Electrical Systems Branch (SELB) prescribed the subject test in connection with the referenced SER to ensure the adequacy of breaker coordination. The "allegor individual" believes that if instantaneous trip testing were implemented, there would be a high potential for breaker degradation or failure and further believes that the failure is potentially undetectable because of the construction of the breakers. Thus, the individual feels strongly that the test represents a potential safety issue.

The SELB has reviewed the subject allegation and found that it is identical to that of a Sequoyah amendment request from Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA) where they had requested to delete testing of the instantaneous trip element of MCCBs at Sequoyah Nuclear Plant. The staff concluded that the MCCBs are considered of sufficient safety significance as to require periodic testing. This

Contact:
P. Kang, SELB/DEST
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is to provide assurance of their reliability and capability to perform their intended design function. Such test has been prescribed and performed per technical specifications for the low voltage MCCBs which are used for containment penetration protection for all operating plants. Subsequently, the request was denied and the safety evaluation report is enclosed (Enclosure 1). In view of the fact that the staff has evaluated this subject before and no new substantive information has been provided for us to review by this allegation, we conclude that no further review is necessary.

Enclosure 2 is a copy of National Electrical Manufacturers Association (NEMA) AB2-1984 "Procedures for Field Inspection and Performance Verification of Molded Case Circuit Breakers Used in Commercial and Industrial Applications" which outlines the test procedures used and promoted by industry. We find that this conforms with the basic conservative industry design standards and satisfies General Design Criteria-1. By letter dated April 11, 1988, we were informed by Carolina Power & Light (CP&L) that they are developing the test procedure from the above publication.

Faust Rosa, Chief
Electrical Systems Branch
Division of Engineering & Systems Technology

Enclosures:

- 1. SER (TVA/Sequoyah pages 4-10)
- 2. NEMA Standard AB2-1984 (Section 5)

- cc: R. Brady
L. Shao
G. Lainas
A. Thadani
R. Lo
A. S. Gill
J. Knight

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P. Kang (PF)(2)
D. Tondi
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