

MAY 28 1982

MEMORANDUM FOR: Harold R. Denton, Director
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Richard C. DeYoung, Director
Office of Inspection and Enforcement

Robert B. Minogue, Director
Office of Nuclear Regulatory Research

FROM: Carlyle Michelson, Director
Office for Analysis and Evaluation
of Operational Data

SUBJECT: SURVEY OF VALVE OPERATOR-RELATED EVENTS OCCURRING DURING
1978, 1979, and 1980

Following completion of the peer review, we have completed our survey study (enclosure) of valve operator-related events occurring during 1978, 1979, and 1980. The study concentrates on motor-operator events reported in the licensee event report (LER) system during the three year period reviewed.

The survey report on valve operator-related events provides a brief summary of related previous reviews and recommendations developed by both the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission and industry groups; a review and evaluation of events that occurred during 1978, 1979, and 1980; and suggestions and recommendations that would lead to appropriate definition and/or resolution of problems discernible from operating experience. The investigation revealed that events could be grouped into three major categories which are torque switches, limit switches, and motor burnouts. In addition, the results of the investigation indicate these three categories tend to be symptomatic representations of potential problems concerning valve assembly operability or functional qualification rather than dominant causes of inoperability; however, followup activities relating to these three categories could possibly lead to a determination of such causes. Therefore, the safety concerns relate to effects of aging on operability, margin for operability, and availability for operation when needed.

Although we do not consider this operational experience as evidence of immediate concern at operating plants, we do consider that the safety concern and associated implications need to be addressed. Therefore, the enclosed report is forwarded for your information and appropriate action.

*100-5-1
OPERATING
EXPERIENCE*

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Multiple Addressees

If you have any questions regarding this report, please contact Earl J. Brown or Frank S. Ashe of my staff. Mr. Brown can be reached at 492-4440 and Mr. Ashe at 492-4442.

Original Signed by
Carlyle Michelson

Carlyle Michelson, Director
Office for Analysis and Evaluation
for Operational Data

Enclosure:
As stated

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