



Commonwealth Edison
One First National Plaza, Chicago, Illinois
Address Reply to: Post Office Box 767
Chicago, Illinois 60690

August 2, 1982

Mr. James G. Keppler, Regional Administrator
Directorate of Inspection and
Enforcement - Region III
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
799 Roosevelt Road
Glen Ellyn, IL 60137

Subject: Byron Station Units 1 and 2
Braidwood Station Units 1 and 2
Emergency Diesel Generator Field
Relay Failure
NRC Docket Nos. 50-454, 50-455,
50-456 and 50-457

Dear Mr. Keppler:

On July 2, 1982 Commonwealth Edison Company notified Mr. J. Hines of your office of a diesel generator relay deficiency which is reportable pursuant to 50.55(e). For your tracking purposes, this deficiency is numbered 82-04 for Byron Station and 82-03 for Braidwood Station. This is an interim report. The final report will be submitted by September 2, 1982.

Description of Deficiency

During testing of Byron emergency diesel generator 1B it was discovered that one of the contacts on relay 14FX was fused closed. This caused the field flashing circuit to remain energized after the diesel generator had been stopped. That relay was replaced and the test resumed.

Further investigation revealed severe burning and pitting of the contacts on relay 14FRX (the backup to relay 14FX) and the contacts on the voltage sensing relays in the field flashing circuits of both Byron 1 emergency diesel generators. It appears that the contacts do not have adequate DC interrupting capability in these applications.

Analysis of Safety Implications

The failure of one field flashing relay, either 14FX or 14FRX should not prevent proper operation of the diesel generator. Failure of both relays would prevent field flashing and would render the diesel inoperable. If the contacts in either relay fused closed, the field would remain energized while the diesel generator was stopped. This would eventually result in degradation of the field winding.

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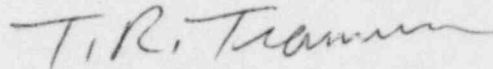
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Corrective Action Taken

The defective relay has been replaced with one having heavier contacts. Field voltage is being monitored to assure correct relay operation when the diesel generator is stopped. The supplier, (Cooper Energy Services) has been contacted for their recommendation on a permanent fix.

Please address questions regarding this matter to this office.

Very truly yours,



T. R. Tramm
Nuclear Licensing Administrator

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cc: Director of Inspection
and Enforcement

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