



UNITED STATES  
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

February 7, 1994

Docket Nos. 50-424  
and 50-425

Mr. C. K. McCoy  
Vice President - Nuclear  
Vogtle Project  
Georgia Power Company  
Birmingham, Alabama 35201

Dear Mr. McCoy:

SUBJECT: GENERIC LETTER 89-10, SUPPLEMENT 5, "INACCURACY OF MOTOR-OPERATED VALVE DIAGNOSTIC EQUIPMENT" (TAC NOS. M88016 AND M88017)

On June 28, 1993, the NRC staff issued Supplement 5, "Inaccuracy of Motor-Operated Valve Diagnostic Equipment," to Generic Letter (GL) 89-10, "Safety-Related Motor-Operated Valve Testing and Surveillance," requesting nuclear power plant licensees and construction permit holders (1) to re-examine their MOV programs and to identify measures taken to account for uncertainties in properly setting valve operating thrust to ensure operability, and (2) to evaluate the schedule necessary to consider the new information on MOV diagnostic equipment inaccuracy and to take appropriate action in response to that information. Within 90 days of receipt of Supplement 5 to GL 89-10, licensees were required (1) to notify the NRC staff of the diagnostic equipment used to confirm the proper size, or to establish settings, for safety-related MOVs, and (2) to report whether they had taken actions or planned to take actions (including schedule) to address the new information on the accuracy of MOV diagnostic equipment.

The staff has reviewed the responses, and has found that, for the most part, licensees and permit holders have been actively addressing the uncertainties regarding the accuracy of MOV diagnostic equipment. The increased inaccuracy of MOV diagnostic equipment can raise questions regarding (1) the adequacy of torque switch settings to provide sufficient thrust while not exceeding thrust or torque structural limits and (2) the capability of actuator motors at current settings. In their responses, licensees and permit holders indicated that many MOVs had the potential for underthrusting or overthrusting as a result of the higher than expected inaccuracy of MOV diagnostic equipment. Consequently, some licensees reported that MOVs have been retested, adjusted, or modified to resolve the concerns regarding the accuracy of MOV diagnostic equipment.

In your response dated September 15, 1993, you stated that Vogtle uses MOV diagnostic equipment manufactured by ITI-MOVATS including the TMD, SST, SSR, SLS, TTC and BARTS (for butterfly valve diagnostics). You also stated that you began using Liberty Technologies' VOTES equipment in spring 1993, and that

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Mr. C. K. McCoy

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each MOV setup using the TMD had been evaluated and dispositioned. Your evaluation found seven MOVs to potentially exceed their valve or operator maximum allowable thrust. You determined six MOVs to be acceptable as-is with the remaining MOV acceptable for a limited number of cycles, and stated that all seven MOVs will be retested by the end of 1993, and all MOVs tested with VOTES have used the new 2.3 software. You stated that you were currently evaluating the issue involving the potential change in actuator output thrust resulting from installation of the ITI-MOVATS TTC with completion planned before the end of the fall 1993 outage for Vogtle Unit 2. During a future inspection, the NRC staff will discuss your resolution of the MOV diagnostic equipment accuracy issue. Particularly, the staff will discuss the operability evaluations for the seven overthrust MOVs.

This completes all efforts on TAC Nos. M88016 and M88017. If you have any questions regarding this issue, please call me at (301) 504-1490.

Sincerely,

Original signed by:

C. E. Carpenter, Acting Project Manager  
 Project Directorate II-3  
 Division of Reactor Projects - I/II  
 Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

cc: See next page

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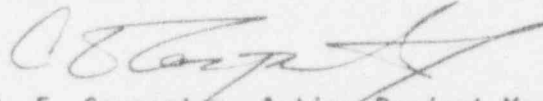
Mr. C. K. McCoy

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Sincerely,



C. F. Carpenter, Acting Project Manager  
Project Directorate II-3  
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Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

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