



COOPER ENERGY SERVICES

July 25, 1978

Office of Inspection and Enforcement  
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Washington, D. C. 20555

ATTN: Director of Inspection and Enforcement

Gentlemen:

In accordance with 10CFR Part 21, this letter will provide notification of a defect that has been determined to exist in six emergency standby diesel-generator sets supplied to nuclear facilities by Cooper Energy Services.

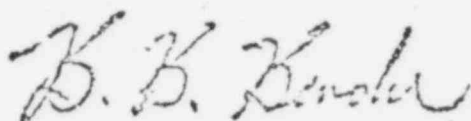
Four of the diesel-generators in question were procured by Bechtel Corporation, San Francisco, California for the Pennsylvania Power and Light Company's Susquehanna Steam Electric Station at Derwick, Pennsylvania. The remaining two were procured by Ebasco Services, Incorporated, New York, N.Y. for Louisiana Power and Light Company's Waterford Nuclear Station #3 at Taft, Louisiana.

The defect exists in a spring which operates the overspeed shutdown butterfly valve on the engine turbocharger air inlet connection. The spring is plated with electrolytically deposited cadmium to prevent corrosion. Several identical springs have recently failed on units still in the process of manufacture at C.E.S. The cause of failure has been determined to be cracks in the base metal, caused by the electrolytic plating process. Although the springs that are installed on the above identified delivered units have not failed, the possibility of eventual failure necessitates replacement of the spring on the delivered units.

None of the delivered units are operational at this time, so there is no actual safety hazard created by the defect. If the units were operational and the spring were to fail, one of the two overspeed protection devices provided on each engine would fail to perform. However, the other overspeed protection device, a fuel shut-off mechanism activated by a mechanically driven speed governor, would not be affected by the spring failure and would provide independently effective engine overspeed protection.

The equipment identified in this letter is the only equipment delivered to a nuclear facility by C.E.S. that could contain the defect described.

The spring will be replaced with one made from a material that will not crack when cadmium plated. The C.E.S. Customer Services department is responsible for accomplishing the replacement, which we expect to complete by September 30, 1978.



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