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MURRAY R. EDELMAN

VICE PRESIDENT
NUCLEAR

March 9, 1983

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

RE: Perry Nuclear Power Plant
Docket Nos. 50-440; 50-441
Potential Breach of Seal Integrity
Defect of Hydrogen Igniters
[RDC 65 (83)]

Dear Mr. Keppler:

This letter serves as the Interim Report pursuant to 10CFR50.55(e) concerning the potential breach of seal defect associated with hydrogen igniters Model 6043, supplied by Power Systems, a Morrison-Knudsen Division. This condition was first reported to Mr. F. Jablonski of your office on February 7, 1983, by Mr. J. Kerr for The Cleveland Electric Illuminating Company (CEI). This report contains a description of the deficiency and corrective action taken.

Description of the Deficiency

Power Systems is supplying hydrogen igniters Model 6043 for the Perry Nuclear Power Plant (PNPP) Units 1 & 2 that will be used inside containment to maintain the post LOCA hydrogen concentrations below the applicable limits. On January 28, 1983, Power Systems notified the Nuclear Regulatory Commission under 10CFR21 that a potential defect had been identified concerning breach of seal integrity of the hydrogen igniter glow plug component. This notification was transmitted to CEI by Power Systems letter dated February 2, 1983.

The potential breach of seal integrity defect affects 24 hydrogen igniters which were shipped to PNPP, the initial shipment only. The defect occurred in the cover plate assembly, which houses the glow plug, and the glow plug. It has been determined by the vendor that the potential breach of seal integrity was caused by leakage past the seating surface between the glow plug and cover plate and subsequently through the ceramic material which covers the exposed tip of the glow plug.

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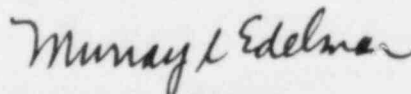
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Corrective Action

The potentially defective initial shipment of twenty-four (24) hydrogen igniters was returned to Power Systems, a Morrison-Knudsen Division, Rocky Mount, North Carolina, on February 2, 1983. Power Systems will rework/repair the returned hydrogen igniter cover plate assemblies and the glow plug. In order to assure that the breach of seal integrity rework/repair accomplished is sufficient to correct the potential defect, the pneumatic test of the coverplate with the installed glow plug shall be witnessed by manufacturing surveillance personnel on 100% of the returned hydrogen igniters. We are presently planning to submit our final report on this subject by April 29, 1983.

Please call if there are additional questions.

Sincerely,



Murray R. Edelman
Vice President
Nuclear Group

MRE:pab

cc: Mr. M. L. Gildner
NRC Site Office

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

U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
c/o Document Management Branch
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