

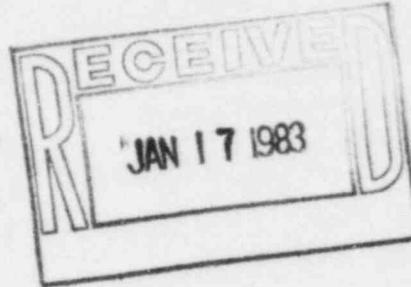


KANSAS GAS AND ELECTRIC COMPANY

GLENN L. KOESTER
VICE PRESIDENT - NUCLEAR

January 13, 1983

Mr. W.C. Seidle, Chief
Reactor Projects Branch 2
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Region IV
611 Ryan Plaza Drive, Suite 1000
Arlington, Texas 76011



KMLNRC 83-003
Re: Docket No. STN 50-482
Subj: Potential 10CFR50.55(e) Report on Damaged Battery
Charger Choke Lead

Dear Mr. Seidle:

This letter provides an interim report on a potential 10CFR50.55(e) item concerning damaged battery charger choke leads at the Wolf Creek Generating Station. Mr. Earl Creel of Kansas Gas and Electric Company initially reported this concern to Mr. Lawrence Martin of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (Region IV) on December 14, 1982.

During startup checkout of the safety-related battery chargers, evidence of arcing between the choke (L1) and the input lead to the choke was discovered. Further investigation revealed that the input lead runs from a large unsupported feed cable to the choke. The feed cable sags due to its size and has allowed the input lead to come into contact with the coil turns on the surface of the choke. Vibration within the unit caused the insulation on the input lead of the choke to be worn away by the coil turns on the surface of the choke. The input lead of the choke then shorted to one set of turns on the choke, thus defeating a portion of the choke. This increased the amount of ripple in the battery charger output voltage. The worn insulation was discovered on all five safety-related chargers and evidence of arcing was discovered on four of the chargers.

An evaluation of the safety implications of this matter has not yet been completed. In any event the units will be repaired and modified to preclude future problems.

A more detailed description of the corrective actions and the status of the safety evaluation will be reported on or before April 18, 1983. In

8301250516 830113
PDR ADOCK 050C0482
S PDR

IE 27

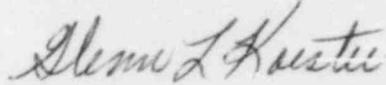
Mr. W.C. Seidle
KMLNRC 83-003

-2-

January 13, 1983

the interim, please direct any questions concerning this subject to me or to Mr. Otto Maynard of my staff.

Yours very truly,



Glenn L. Koester
Vice President - Nuclear

GLK:bb

cc: Mr. Richard C. DeYoung
Director of Inspection and Enforcement
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, D.C. 20555

Messrs. TVandel/SSchum
NRC Resident Inspectors
P.O. Box 311
Burlington, Kansas 66839