UNION ELECTRIC COMPANY 1901 GRATIOT STREET ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI

DONALD F. SCHNELL

January 26, 1983

MAILING ADDRESS: P. O. BOX 149 ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI 63166

Mr. James G. Keppler, Director Region III Office of Inspection & Enforcement US Nuclear Regulatory Commission 799 Roosevelt Road Glen Ellyn, IL 60137

ULNRC-603

Dear Mr. Keppler:

INTERIM REPORT-BATTERY CHARGER OUTPUT CHOKE FAILURE CALLAWAY PLANT UNIT I

On Wednesday, January 5, 1983 we provided Mr. H. M. Wescott verbal notification of a 10CFR50.55(e)/Part 21 report regarding a deficiency identified with the station battery chargers manufactured by Power Conversion Products.

The problem is associated with the failure of the charger output filter choke that is caused by a short circuit between the choke input lead and the choke coil. The short occurs because the choke input lead is unsupported and, as such, it lies against the choke coil where the normal vibration of the equipment causes the insulation to wear away. The failure produces a ripple effect in the charger output which could adversely affect the operation of electronic equipment. The problem was initially identified during startup activities on November 17, 1982. At that time it was considered an isolated instance. Subsequently, Union Electric was informed that Wolf Creek had experienced the same problem and had reported it as a potential significant deficiency on December 14, 1982. An evaluation was performed and the Callaway failure was assessed as reportable.

Since this same problem has occurred at Wolf Creek, the deficiency is now considered generic and the final report is expected to be submitted by February 15, 1983.

Very truly yours, Schnell nald F.

RMD/jds

cc: H. M. Wescott, Region III Richard DeYoung, Director I&E NRC Resident Inspector, Callaway Plant Missouri Public Service Commission

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