November 14, 1979

H. Etherington, Chairman B&W Water Reactors Subcommittee

SAFE SHUTDOWN BORATION CAPABILITY

According to the attached letter from Consumers Fower Company, it took "an extensive review" of the Midland shutdown boration capability, to discover, on October 1, 1979, that the Midland design does not permit achieving and maintaining a 1% k/k shutdown margin with safety grade equipment assuming "a most restrictive condition and the control rod of highest worth stuck out of the core."

I suggest that the circumstances surrounding this discovery be reviewed by the B&W Water Reactors Subcommittee to especially explore proposed fixes, but also to explore whether a similar extensive review should be performed on other B&W reactors. If you concur, please let me know and I will take the necessary steps to arrange a meeting of the Subcommittee.

Ragnwald Muller Senior Staff Engineer

Attachment: Consumers Power Company 1tr. Howe-283-79, of Oct. 31, 1979

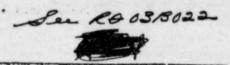
cc: ACRS

Technical Staff

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PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION



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May 4, 1979

PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION OF EVENT OR UNUSUAL OCCURRENCE -- PNO-79-101

This preliminary notification constitutes EARLY notice of an event of POSSIBLE safety or public interest significance. The information presented is as initially received without verification or evaluation and is basically all that is known by IE staff on this date.

Facility: Consumers Power Company, Midland, Units 1 and 2

Midland, Michigan (DN 50-329 and DN 50-330)

Subject: CUT WIRES AT HIDLAND CONSTRUCTION SITE

Consumers Power notified the resident inspector that approximately 20 electrical wires were apparently cut intentionally in four safety and non-safety related panels in the control room at the Midland site. It appeared the wires were cut using electrical pliers. In addition, glass was found broken in six electrical relay covers.

The damage was found on the morning of May 3 by a Bechtel electrical foreman. The control room is not normally manned during the night shift. The licensee is currently reviewing the problem. No significant labor disputes have occurred recently.

Region III will monitor the licensee's investigation of the matter. Independent investigation by the NRC will be conducted if warranted.

No press release is planned by the licensee or the NRC at this time. The State of Michigan is being notified.

The resident inspector was notified of this problem at 1245 hours on May 3, 1979, by Consumers Power Company.

Contact: JBHenderson, IE, 27551; GWReinmuth, IE, 27551

Distribution: Transmitted II Dt 11:15

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Region ____

(MAIL)

J. J. Cummings, OIA

R. Minogue, SD

MODES OFFICE COM

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X- MIDLAND

Mornoles



Stephen H. Howell Senior Vice President

General Offices: 1945 West Parnell Road, Jackson, Michigan 49201 • (517) 789-0453

October 31, 1979 Howe-283-79

Mr J G Keppler, Regional Director Office of Inspection and Enforcement US Nuclear Regulatory Commission Region III 799 Roosevelt Road Glen Ellyn, IL 60137

MIDIAND NUCLEAR PLANT
UNIT NO 1, DOCKET NO 50-329
UNIT NO 2, DOCKET NO 50-330
SAFE SHUTDOWN BORATION CAPABILITY

In accordance with the requirements of 10 CFR 50.55(e), this letter constitutes an interim report concerning a potentially unsafe situation originally reported by a telephone call from B W Marguglio, CPCo QA-PELC, to R Cook, NRC Resident Inspector, on October 2, 1979.

On October 1, 1979, Consumers Power Company received written notification from Dabcock & Wilcox that the present Midland design does not permit schieving and maintaining a 1% Δ k/k shutdown margin with safety grade equipment assuming a most restrictive core condition and the control rod of highest worth stuck out of the core. This report resulted after an extensive review of the Midland shutdown boration capability. At present, several design changes, including hardware modifications and changes to boron concentration, are under consideration as remedies for this situation.

Another report, either interim or final, will be sent on or before January 29, 1980.

GRE/1r

CC: Director of Office of Inspection and Enforcement Att: Mr Victor Stello, USNEC (15)

Director of Office of Management Information and Program Control, USNRC (1) 8013,10

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