

POWER AUTHORITY OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK

JAMES A. FITZPATRICK NUCLEAR POWER PLANT



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January 26, 1979
JAFP-79-055

Boyce H. Grier, Director
Inspection and Enforcement Division
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Region 1
631 Park Avenue
King of Prussia, Pennsylvania 19406

SUBJECT: 1 & E Bulletin No. 78-14
Deterioration of Buna-N Components in Asco Solenoids

- REFERENCES: 1) General Electric Company SIL 128, Rev. 1,
Dated January 30, 1976
- 2) General Electric Company SIL 128, Rev. 1, Supplement 1,
Dated August 28, 1978

Dear Mr. Grier:

The FitzPatrick Plant Staff has reviewed the application of Buna-N materials within the control rod drive hydraulic system as indicated in Bulletin 78-14, References 1 and 2, and verified that the application of the Buna-N materials is as described in References 1 and 2.

The plant staff has not been able to determine with precision, the manufacture dates or the package dates. However, based on records which indicate the components were received at the plant site in mid-1970 and initially placed in service (energized) during February 1974, it is believed that 1969 is the probable packaging year. In any case, it has been at least nine (9) years since packaging.

The FitzPatrick Plant has, based on Reference 1, replaced two-thirds of the scram pilot valve diaphragms during the past two years and plans to replace the remainder during the next scheduled refueling outage. In addition, the plant also plans to replace the components listed in Reference 2 during the next scheduled refueling outage.

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With respect to scheduling of periodic replacement, the FitzPatrick Plant can not yet provide the Commission with a commitment. Our inability to make such a commitment at this time is based on a General Electric Company study addressing the recommended replacement schedule that has not yet been completed. We believe the results of this study and its recommendations will be available by March of 1979 and we will provide the Commission with a proposed schedule for periodic maintenance (inspection and replacement) within 60 days of receipt of the study.

As a further point of interest, with respect to a schedule for replacement, the FitzPatrick Staff notes that the Nuclear Regulatory Commission has proposed a replacement interval of not to exceed three (3) years based on the original issue of SIL 128 (March 31, 1975). Revision 1 of SIL 128 (Reference 1) completely superseded the original issue and neither Revision 1 nor Revision 1, Supplement 1, make any mention of a "minimum design life of three (3) years" associated with Buna-N materials.

Very truly yours,


JOHN D. LEONARD, JR.

JDL:VC:brp

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