

JAN 19 1984

MEMORANDUM FOR: Edward L. Jordan, Director
Division of Emergency Preparedness,
and Engineering Response
Office of Inspection and Enforcement

FROM: Thomas A. Ippolito, Deputy Director
Office for Analysis and Evaluation
of Operational Data

SUBJECT: PROPOSED IE INFORMATION NOTICE REGARDING DEFICIENCY
IN AUTOMATIC SWITCH COMPANY (ASCO) SPARE PARTS KITS
FOR SCRAM PILOT SOLENOID VALVES

REFERENCE: Letter from J. P. McGaughy, Jr., Mississippi Power and
Light Company to J. P. O'Reilly, Regional Administrator,
NRC, Subject: Grand Gulf Nuclear Station Units 1 and 2,
Final Report for Unit 1, Interim Report for Unit 2, ASCO
Spare Parts Kits for Scram Pilot Valve Solenoids, dated
September 16, 1983.

The enclosed Engineering Evaluation Report is provided for your consideration in support of an IE Information Notice on the above subject. Based on results obtained from followup activities conducted for the referenced report, we believe that the deficiencies identified in the enclosed report concerning these solenoid valves could exist at other nuclear facilities.

Conclusions attained as a result of our review were:

1. The corrective measures taken at the Grand Gulf Station for the identified deficiencies were appropriate and if implemented properly they should preclude recurrence of such occurrences.
2. Information obtained during our review illustrates that broad based generic preventive maintenance schedules for the identified and related devices should be modified in accordance with actual service conditions including environmental conditions. In general, for such devices, as actual service conditions become more severe, preventive maintenance activities should be more frequent (with less severe conditions resulting in less frequent maintenance activities).
3. Although a common cause failure mechanism has been identified for these solenoid valves that could have significant safety consequences, we were unable to identify any additional events involving these devices which would indicate that the common cause deficiency (scram

840209 XA
MEP/BJD

spring reversed on the core assembly) actually exists at any other nuclear facility. However, the fact that 30% of the spare parts kits provided to the Grand Gulf Station were found to have this deficiency tends to suggest that spare parts kits provided to other facilities may also have this deficiency.

The deficiencies identified in the enclosed report could result in the failure of these devices to perform their function and one consequence of their failure would be to preclude attendant Hydraulic Control Units in a BWR facility from performing their normal reactor scram function. Accordingly, we suggest that an IE Information Notice be issued to alert licensees of operating reactors and permit holders of reactors under construction of the findings in this report.

Original signed by
Thomas A. Ippolito

Thomas A. Ippolito, Deputy Director
Office for Analysis and Evaluation
of Operational Data

Enclosure:
As stated

cc: w/enclosure
R. DeYoung, IE
P. Farron, IE
T. Gibbons, RII
GHolahan, NRR