

UNITED STATES
ATOMIC ENERGY COMMISSION
DIRECTORATE OF REGULATORY OPERATIONS
REGION I
970 BROAD STREET
NEWARK, NEW JERSEY 07102

Memorandum to File

September 12, 1973

TELEPHONE CALL TO MR. DON ROSS, MANAGER OF NUCLEAR GENERATOR STATIONS,
JERSEY CENTRAL POWER & LIGHT COMPANY - DOCKET NO. 50-219

D. L. Caphton stated at about 8:20 a.m. - 9/12/73 - to Mr. Don Ross that he wished to convey his large concerns in the matter of the recent power outage that occurred on 9/8/73, and which was reported as an Abnormal Occurrence. It was further stated to Mr. Ross that the fact that the diesel generators were the only power source remaining at times during this incident, and in light of the number of prior problems with diesel generators failing to start, or inoperative diesel generators; this entire matter was considered to be very, very serious. Mr. Ross stated that he recognized the seriousness of the incident, and that Jersey Central had already proceeded to take measures to further improve the reliability of the diesel generators. He stated that at this very moment their GORB, off-site Safety Review Committee, was holding a meeting (note, this was a scheduled meeting), and discussing ways in which to improve the reliability and dependability of the diesel generators. It was stated to Mr. Ross that I personally consider OC-1 very, very lucky that they had two diesel generators operating at the time of this incident, particularly in view of the fact that the generators were jockeyed on an off-line and subjected to fault tripouts; the fact that both generators did not fault at the same time (except for one instance of about 15 seconds) during this specific incident was a fortuitous event. Mr. Ross stated that he did not consider it luck -- that there were other factors involved.

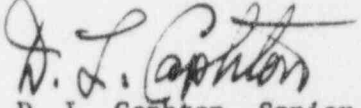
D. L. Caphton further stated to Mr. Ross that he was very, very concerned in the matter of the differential relay taps being connected incorrently by out of plant relay people. Mr. Ross stated that action was being taken to correct this situation. He further added that he would suspect that other plants had this same situation of using outside relay people. It was stated that this was a clear example of the lack of a Quality Assurance & Control Program at this plant. D. L. Caphton stated that he was very much concerned that this facility appeared to be not meeting their requirements under the law of 10 CFR 50, Appendix B, QA criteria. It was further stated that these statements of opinion were based upon my visit to their plant two weeks ago, plus information that I am currently receiving from our inspector who is at the plant today. Mr. Ross spoke of having a staff now actively working on

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the QA Program and thought that they would have a program by next year.

D. L. Caphton stated to Mr. Ross that the implementation of a QA Program was needed today and should be available within days. Mr. Ross stated that he would make a memorandum of Mr. Caphton's comments and see to it that his management receives a copy of it, plus the personnel working on the QA Program. Mr. Ross added he reckoned that he would be hearing from us as a result of the inspection at their facility. I stated that this would be a fact.

The conversations with Mr. Ross were congenial and friendly; however, businesslike. Mr. Ross seemed to be responsive to the concerns raised. He also subsequently learned from our inspector at the site that the plant superintendent had been subsequently informed about this telecon.


D. L. Caphton, Senior
Reactor Inspector, BWR

cc: James P. O'Reilly
R. T. Carlson
Edward G. Greenman
P. Nelson
M. Howard