

**COMBUSTION ENGINEERING**

January 7, 1988  
LD-88-001

50-395

Dr. T. E. Murley, Director  
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation  
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Attn: Document Control Desk  
Washington, D. C. 20555

Subject: Revision to Information Provided Regarding Post Accident  
Uncertainties Associated with Core Exit Thermocouple  
System Litton Connectors

Reference: Letter, LD-87-025, A. E. Scherer (C-E) to T. E. Murley  
(NRC), dated May 22, 1987

Dear Dr. Murley:

The purpose of this letter is to correct the record regarding information previously provided in the reference letter with respect to increased post accident uncertainties associated with core exit thermocouple systems supplied by Combustion Engineering and which employ certain Litton cable connectors.

In the reference letter, Combustion Engineering indicated that the V. C. Summer plant was affected by the reported condition. Through discussions with the utility and after reviewing our records, we have determined that Combustion Engineering did not supply the affected cable connectors to that plant for use in its core exit thermocouple system nor does the plant rely on the environmental qualification testing performed by Combustion Engineering for the affected components. At V. C. Summer, the core exit thermocouple system interface receptacle at the "Head Area Cable Support Structure Disconnect" is a Litton receptacle supplied by Combustion Engineering and threaded on its respective section of mineral insulated cable. The mating plug and silicon "O" ring as well as the cable and connectors for the remainder of the system, however, were not supplied by Combustion Engineering, but were procured directly from Litton by the utility. The environmental qualification of the Litton connectors used in the V. C. Summer system are covered by Litton's qualification reports and not by Combustion Engineering. As such, the NRC should disregard the inclusion of the V. C. Summer plant in our previous information package.

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Combustion Engineering, Inc.

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Dr. T. E. Murley  
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It has also been brought to our attention that the reference letter may have been interpreted in such a manner as to cast doubt on the qualification of all cable connectors employing silicon seals. For the record, the comments made by Combustion Engineering in the reference letter are applicable only to the qualification testing performed by Combustion Engineering for the core exit thermocouple system that we provide. We do not have information at this time that would allow us to conclude that the environmental qualification status of any other core exit thermocouple system or cable connectors are unacceptable.

If you have any questions on this matter, please do not hesitate to call me or Mr. C. M. Molnar of my staff at (203) 285-5205.

Very truly yours,

COMBUSTION ENGINEERING, INC.



A. E. Scherer  
Director  
Nuclear Licensing

AES:ss

xc: J. Gesn, SCE&G  
K. W. Nettles, SCE&G  
A. M. Paglia, Jr., SCE&G  
D. C. Warner, SCE&G

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