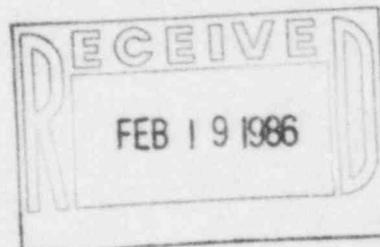




KANSAS GAS AND ELECTRIC COMPANY

GLENN L. KOESTER
VICE PRESIDENT - NUCLEAR

February 11, 1986



Mr. R.D. Martin, Regional Administrator
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Region IV
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U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
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Washington D.C. 20555

KMLNRC 86-027
RE: Docket No. STN 50-482
SUBJ: Response to IE Bulletin 85-01

Gentlemen:

The purpose of this letter is to provide a response for the Wolf Creek Generating Station (WCGS) to the subject Bulletin advising certain holders of Construction Permits and Operating Licenses of the possibility of inoperable auxiliary feedwater (AFW) pumps due to steam binding. The subject Bulletin requested licensees to take certain actions to reduce the possibility of steam binding in AFW pumps.

The subject Bulletin requires that procedures be developed for monitoring fluid conditions within the AFW system on a regular basis during times when the system is required to be operable. At WCGS temperature elements are provided at the top of the feedwater lines between the pump discharge check valves and pump discharge flanges which indicate the temperature on the Balance of Plant computer. Procedure STS CR-001, Revision 3, requires temperature readings be taken once per shift to monitor fluid conditions while in modes 1, 2, and 3. STS CR-001 was approved December 20, 1985.

Bulletin 85-01 also requires that procedures be developed for recognizing steam binding and for restoring the AFW system to operable status should steam binding occur. Procedure STS CR-001 recognizes the possibility of steam binding by monitoring fluid temperature. If the temperature approaches 200° F procedure OFN 00-026, Revision 0, will be implemented. OFN 00-026 was developed to provide actions to be followed upon identification of possible steam binding of any AFW pump. The affected AFW pump(s) will be inoperable during the performance of OFN 00-026. OFN 00-026 was approved December 30, 1985.

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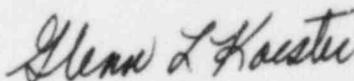
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In addition to the above mentioned administrative controls, the following design features at WCGS will minimize problems due to steam binding of AFW pumps:

- 1) There are three check valves in series between the main feedwater lines and the AFW pumps that are designed to prevent reverse flow to the AFW pumps.
- 2) The piping is not insulated from the AFW check valve at the main feedwater line to the pump discharge flange. The exposed line should help condense any steam formed in the pipe.
- 3) The steam driven AFW pump minimum flow line tap is on the top of a line located 16" from the pump discharge flange. The minimum flow lines on the motor driven AFW pumps are at 45° from vertical and 30" from the pump discharge flanges. These locations will help vent the steam to the condensate storage tank, should back leakage occur.

The combination of design features and administrative controls that are currently being taken reduces the probability for steam binding of AFW pumps to an acceptable level. Should steam binding occur adequate procedures are in place to recognize the situation and restore the AFW pumps to an operable status. Administrative controls shall be kept in effect until completion of a hardware modification to substantially reduce the likelihood of steam binding or until superseded by action implemented as a result of resolution of Generic Issue 93, "Steam Binding of Auxiliary Feedwater Pumps".

Yours Very Truly,



Glenn L. Koester
Vice President - Nuclear

GLK:see

xc: PO'Connor
JCummins

STATE OF KANSAS)
) SS
CITY OF WICHITA)

Glenn L. Koester, of lawful age, being first duly sworn upon oath says that he is Vice President - Nuclear and an Officer of Kansas Gas and Electric Company; that he has read the foregoing document and knows the content thereof; that he has executed that same for and on behalf of said Company with full power and authority to do so; and that the facts therein stated are true and correct to the best of his knowledge, information and belief.

By Glenn L. Koester
Glenn L. Koester
Vice President - Nuclear

SUBSCRIBED and sworn to before me this 11th day of February, 1985.

Lisa D. Glenn
Notary Public

Expiration Date 12/28/87

