



TU ELECTRIC

Log # TXX-88456
File # 10035

May 17, 1988

William G. Council
Executive Vice President

U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Attn: Document Control Desk
Washington, D.C. 20555

SUBJECT: COMANCHE PEAK STEAM ELECTRIC STATION (CPSES)
RESPONSE TO GENERIC LETTER 88-03
STEAM BINDING OF AUXILIARY FEEDWATER PUMPS

REF: 1) NRC IE Bulletin 85-01
2) W. G. Council letter to R. D. Martin, TXX-4937, dated
August 1, 1986

Gentlemen:

Reference (1) requested that certain PWR plants implement procedures to monitor auxiliary feedwater (AFW) piping temperatures for indication of backleakage and restore the AFW pumps in the event steam binding occurs. Reference (2) described the methods used at CPSES to accomplish these requirements in response to the IE Bulletin. Attached is confirmation that administrative controls are in place at CPSES to reduce the probability of AFW pump failure as a result of steam binding.

Very truly yours,

W. G. Council

VPC/grr
Attachment

c - Mr. R. D. Martin, Region IV
Resident Inspectors, CPSES (3)

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Item 1:

Maintain procedures to monitor fluid conditions within the AFW system each shift during times when the system is required to be operable. This monitoring should ensure that fluid temperature at the AFW discharge is maintained at about ambient levels.

Response 1:

In Reference (2), CPSES committed to venting the pump casing on the motor driven and turbine driven AFW pumps once a shift for evidence of steam. As an alternative to this commitment, TU Electric will monitor the AFW pump discharge piping temperature by touch to determine if the temperature is at or near ambient conditions. This action is performed each shift. Should abnormal temperatures exist, the pump casing is vented and the Shift Supervisor notified. Operations Administrative Procedure, ODA-301, "Operating Logs" has been revised to reflect this change in methodology. This revised approach to monitoring AFW fluid conditions was described in Reference (1) as an acceptable method for meeting the requirements.

Item 2:

Maintain procedures for recognizing steam binding and for restoring the AFW system to operable status, should steam binding occur.

Response 2:

An Abnormal Operating Procedure, ABN-305A, "Auxiliary Feedwater System Malfunctions", has been written which includes plant indications of steam binding in an AFW pump and provides operator action to restore the AFW pump to an operable status for Unit 1. The Abnormal Operating Procedure for Unit 2 will be developed by Unit 2 fuel load.

Additional requested information:

1. Staff time to perform requested confirmation.

Response: 8 hours

2. Staff time to prepare requested documentation.

Response: 2 hours