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Vice President
Nuclear Generation

Docket No. 50-348

June 9, 1988



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

Gentlemen:

Joseph M. Farley Nuclear Plant - Unit 1
NRC Bulletin 88-01:
Defects in Westinghouse Circuit Breakers
(TACS 65955/65956)

NRC Bulletin 88-01 was issued on February 5, 1988 informing licensees of safety concerns with Westinghouse Type DS circuit breakers. Licensees were required to inspect all Westinghouse DS-416 reactor trip and bypass breakers within thirty days of receipt of the bulletin and submit a confirmation letter of completion within sixty days. By letter dated April 4, 1988, Alabama Power Company submitted to the NRC a confirmation letter of completion of the Farley Nuclear Plant, Units 1 and 2, reactor trip and bypass breaker inspections.

For all other Class 1E Westinghouse Type DS breakers, licensees were requested to perform "short-term" and "long-term" inspections. Short-term inspections refer to the three main pole levers (the left pole lever, the center pole lever, and the right pole lever). The short-term inspections were to be performed at the next available opportunity (e.g., a maintenance outage) or during the next surveillance test for the breaker, whichever is earlier. Long-term inspections refer to the inspections of the four remaining welds on the pole shaft and to the direct check of the alignment of the breaker closing mechanism. The long-term inspections were required to be performed on the breaker prior to restart following the next refueling outage.

Alabama Power Company has performed the short and long-term inspections on all other Class 1E Westinghouse Type DS breakers in Farley Nuclear Plant, Unit 1. These inspections encompassed a total of sixty-seven Westinghouse Type DS breakers. The sixty-seven breakers include nine DS-416 Class 1E breakers and fifty-eight DS-206 Class 1E breakers. The results of these inspections revealed that, of the sixty-seven breakers inspected, sixty-six of the breakers required new pole shafts due to failure of the welds to meet NRC Bulletin 88-01 requirements. Of the sixty-six breaker pole shafts that were replaced, only one was identified as having improper breaker mechanism alignment. The sixty-six new pole shafts were inspected prior to installation and passed NRC Bulletin 88-01 Criteria 6.1.1, 7.1 and 7.2.

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Although not specifically required by NRC Bulletin 88-01, the NRC Staff has requested, in a telecon with Alabama Power Company on May 23, 1988, that details of the breaker pole shaft inspections be transmitted to the NRC. Alabama Power Company is in the process of compiling this data and will submit the data to the NRC by July 15, 1988.

This action completes the requirements of NRC Bulletin 88-01 for Farley Nuclear Plant, Unit 1.

If there are any questions, please advise.

Respectfully submitted,

ALABAMA POWER COMPANY

W. G. Hairston III
W. G. Hairston, III

WGH, III/RGW:mV4.78

cc: Mr. L. B. Long
Dr. J. N. Grace
Mr. E. A. Reeves
Mr. W. H. Bradford

SWORN TO AND SUBSCRIBED BEFORE ME

THIS 9th DAY OF June, 1988

James A. Rippe

Notary Public

My Commission Expires: 9-11-88