

DMB

JUN 23 1986

MEMORANDUM FOR: Gary G. Zech, Chief, Vendor Program Branch, Office of  
Inspection and Enforcement

FROM: Charles E. Norelius, Director, Division of Reactor Projects,  
Region III

SUBJECT: VENDOR FAILURE TO COMPLY WITH QUALITY ASSURANCE  
PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS

Region III received a letter from Wisconsin Electric Power Company concerning the failure of BIVCO Valve Company, a division of Titeflex Corporation, to comply with Quality Assurance program requirements when supplying check valves for use in the containment sampling system at Point Beach Units 1 and 2.

Additional information is contained in the letter which is included as Attachment 1. This issue is forwarded to you as a matter under your cognizance with a request for followup inspection.

Should you have any questions, please contact I. N. Jackiw of my staff at (FTS) 388-5697.

**"Original Signed by C.E. Norelius"**

Charles E. Norelius, Director  
Division of Reactor Projects  
Region III

cc w/attachment:  
C. E. Norelius  
W. G. Guldemon  
I. N. Jackiw  
M. J. Farber

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PDR ADCK 05000266  
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Norelius/mj

RIII

Guldemon

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Jackiw

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Farber

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IE01



**Wisconsin Electric** POWER COMPANY  
231 W MICHIGAN, P O BOX 2046 MILWAUKEE, WI 53201

VPNPD-86-185  
NRC-86-34

May 8, 1986

Mr. J. G. Keppler, Regional Administrator  
Office of Inspection and Enforcement,  
Region III  
U. S. NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION  
799 Roosevelt Road  
Glen Ellyn, Illinois 60137

Dear Mr. Keppler:

DOCKET NOS. 50-266 AND 50-301  
VENDOR FAILURE TO COMPLY WITH QA PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS  
POINT BEACH NUCLEAR PLANT, UNITS 1 AND 2

This letter is to inform you of a nonconformance discovered at the Point Beach Nuclear Plant concerning the procurement of check valves for use in the containment sampling system at Point Beach Units 1 and 2. These check valves were purchased from BIVCO Valve Company, a Division of Titeflex Corporation, located at 603 Hendee Road in Springfield, Massachusetts.

In 1983 four check valves, identified by model number 1016555V-0.5S, were ordered under Wisconsin Electric Purchase Order No. B44001-P from BIVCO. The purchase order specified that the subject valves were to be manufactured and inspected in accordance with the Titeflex quality assurance program which had been reviewed and accepted by Wisconsin Electric. At the time of our receipt of the valves, the vendor provided certification that these valves had been manufactured in accordance with these requirements. During the installation and testing of the modifications to the containment sampling system, some leakage problems were experienced with these valves. We subsequently modified the system design to provide manual isolation valves in series with the vendor's check valves and had several of the valves reworked by the vendor and returned to Point Beach.

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Mr. J. G. Keppler

May 8, 1986

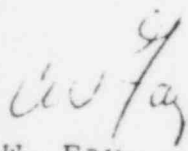
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As a result of a January 26, 1986 audit of this vendor conducted by Wisconsin Electric Quality Assurance personnel, we determined that the subject check valves had been manufactured and supplied essentially as off-the-shelf or commercial-grade items. We further determined that, contrary to the certification received, the specified QA program had not been implemented.

This nonconformance was evaluated in accordance with Wisconsin Electric Quality Assurance procedures and reviewed by our Nuclear Engineering Safety Review Committee for potential 10 CFR 21 reportability. The vendor was informed of our findings at the post-audit meeting and had already issued a Corrective Action Request and Report in accordance with their internal procedures. Our evaluation determined that a failure of these check valves to maintain leak tightness would not result in creation of a substantial safety hazard. The structural integrity of the valve body boundary is verified during each refueling outage by means of a leak check of the containment sampling system. This is a low pressure system, nominally 5 psig, which is isolated from the containment until containment pressure is less than 5 psig. Because of these particular design, testing, and operating circumstances, we have concluded that this non-conformance is not strictly reportable under the requirements of 10 CFR 21.

As a result of this nonconformance, the vendor has been removed from our list of qualified suppliers. We have also discussed this matter with vendor personnel. They have stated that no other valves have been supplied to the nuclear industry under these circumstances. We notified them that we would, nonetheless, inform the NRC of our findings.

Very truly yours,



C. W. Fay  
Vice President  
Nuclear Power

Copies to NRC Resident Inspector  
NRC Office of Inspection and Enforcement,  
Washington, D. C.  
J. G. Makis, Vice President & General Manager,  
Titeflex Corporation  
J. M. Lalikos, Vice President Engineering,  
Titeflex Corporation  
W. Vernon, General Manager,  
BIVCO Valve Company