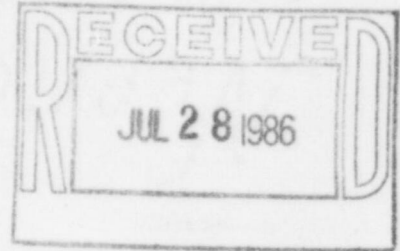




ARKANSAS POWER & LIGHT COMPANY

POST OFFICE BOX 551 LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS 72203 (501) 371-4000
July 16, 1986

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Mr. Robert D. Martin
Regional Administrator
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Region IV
611 Ryan Plaza Drive, Suite 1000
Arlington, TX 76011

SUBJECT: Arkansas Nuclear One - Unit 1 & 2
Docket No. 50-313 and 50-368
License No. DPR-51 and NPF-6
10CFR Part 21 - Terminal Strips

Dear Mr. Martin:

In preparation for the current ANO-2 refueling outage, AP&L solicited a quote from Limatorque for 15 Buchanan 524 terminal strips for use in Limatorque operators. The Buchanan 524 terminal strips are environmentally qualified and made of a phenolic material.

Limatorque responded that 524 strips were not available and that Buchanan 724 terminal strips were the correct replacement, like in form, fit and function. AP&L subsequently placed a purchase order with Limatorque for 15 Buchanan 724 terminal strips. The Purchase Order also specified environmental qualification be established to the same requirements as the 524 strips and certified to test report B0119 which documented the qualification.

The 15 724 strips were received with a Certificate of Conformance to test report B0119 equating environmental qualification to the 524 strips. The 724 strips were accepted and placed into stores.

Some of the 724 strips were issued for installation in valve operators; however, as the electricians were carrying the strips to the work site, environmental qualification personnel noted that the strips were white in color instead of the expected black (phenolic) strips. Work was stopped and an investigation begun.

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July 16, 1986

From the investigation it was learned that the Buchanan 700 series (including 724) terminal strips are manufactured in nylon or polypropylene materials (which are only white in color). Our environmental qualification personnel were suspicious of the white colored terminal strips as they generally equate white with nylon instead of phenolic material. We have been unable to identify any documentation which establishes that the 724 terminal strips meet the environmental qualification of the 500 series (including 524) phenolic terminal strips.

As such, AP&L concluded that a deviation from the Purchase Order existed. Although none of the 724 terminal strips were actually installed, they had passed receipt inspection and were issued. Thus there was a possibility that they could have been installed in safety related operators which could possibly have created a substantial safety hazard. In accordance with 10CFR21, AP&L concluded that a defect in a basic component existed.

This conclusion was reached at 12:20 on July 11, 1986. The Vice President Nuclear Operations was notified at 8:30 on July 12, 1986 and your office was verbally notified at about 11:30 that same date. This letter constitutes the required 5 day written followup report.

Followup Actions

All 15 720 terminal strips have been returned to Limatorque for an evaluation of their environmental qualification status.

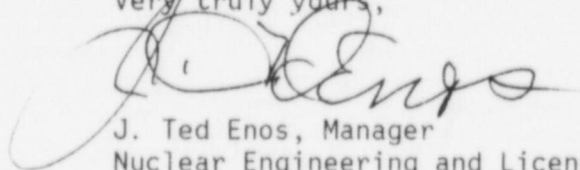
Inventoried parts have been reviewed to assure that no other white terminal strips are in stock for environmental qualification applications.

We are reviewing Purchase Orders placed with Limatorque to determine any similar situations where parts substitution has taken place. From this we will be able to identify situations where similar substitutions could possibly exist.

The AP&L Quality Assurance organization has been notified of this issue and will be asking Limatorque to respond.

As part of the IEB 85-03 work during the current ANO-2 outage, terminal strips and other parts of Limatorque operators are being reviewed. We have established listings of qualified parts. Any terminal strip installed in Limatorque operator that is not on our list is being replaced (regardless of the status of its environmental qualification) with a terminal strip established as acceptable by the list. A similar activity will be conducted on ANO-1 operators during its refueling outage currently scheduled to begin on August 22, 1986.

Very truly yours,



J. Ted Enos, Manager
Nuclear Engineering and Licensing

JTE/sg

July 16, 1986

cc: Mr. James M. Taylor, Director
Office of Inspection and Enforcement
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, DC 20555