



September 12, 1986

Public Service of New Hampshire

SBN- 1191
T.F. Q2.2.2

NEW HAMPSHIRE YANKEE DIVISION

United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Region I
631 Park Avenue
King of Prussia, PA 19406

Attention: Mr. Richard W. Starostecki, Director
Division of Projects and Resident Programs

References: (a) Construction Permits CPPR-135 and CPPR-136, Docket
Nos. 50-443 and 50-444
(b) Telecon of August 5, 1986, J. M. O'Connor and V. W.
Sanchez to D. Haverkamp of Region I

Subject: Interim 10CFR50.55(e) Report; Veritrak/Tobar Transmitters
(CDR 86-00-09)

Dear Sir:

On August 5, 1986 we reported a 10CFR50.55(e) item to Region I [Reference (b)]. The following information is provided under the reporting requirements of 10CFR50.55(e).

Description of Deficiency

In March of 1986 we reported excessive calibration shifts in Veritrak Group A transmitters when subjected to changes in ambient temperature from 80 to 130 degrees F. The transmitters in question were removed and returned to Westinghouse for analysis and repair. Westinghouse established a test program to evaluate and correct the cause of the calibration shifts. During the course of the Westinghouse test program, calibration shifts in excess of specified limits were discovered when the ambient temperature was varied from 80 to 280 degrees F.

Analysis of Safety Implication

The transmitters in question are in-containment Qualification Group A that provide RPS inputs (total of 23 transmitters). The trip setpoints for these instrument channels are based on the maximum calculated error plus margin. Excessive ambient temperature shifts could create a condition where the setpoint could exceed the allowable value limit of the Seabrook Technical Specifications.

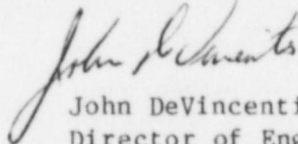
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Status of Investigation

Westinghouse/Tobar has completed the initial testing phase for the Qualification Group A transmitters. This testing effort failed to produce an identifiable root cause for the ambient temperature shift. As part of the continuing investigation, destructive examination testing is currently underway to identify the root cause failure mechanism.

We will inform Region I when testing has been completed. This letter is being filed pursuant to the interim reporting provisions of 10CFR50.55(e).

Very truly yours,



John DeVincentis
Director of Engineering

cc: Atomic Safety and Licensing Board Service List

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