



October 6, 2026

NRC Document Control Desk

U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission

Washington, DC 20555-0001

Subject: Notification of defect/deviation pursuant to 10 CFR 21.21(d)(4) regarding a defect in Trip Latch Assembly 196951K01.

Dear Sir or Madam:

ABB Inc. submits this written notification under 10 CFR 21.21(d)(4) regarding a defect in eleven Trip Latch Assemblies, Part number 196951K01, supplied to Duke Energy Carolinas, LLC, Oconee Nuclear Station.

Individual informing the Commission. Percy Isaac, Interim Plant Manager, ABB Inc., Electrification Service, 2300 Mechanicsville Road, Florence, South Carolina 29501.

Basic component and affected facility. The potentially affected basic component consists of eleven (11) Trip Latch Assemblies 196951K01 supplied to Duke Energy Carolinas, LLC, Oconee Nuclear Station under PO 03214575. Two of the assemblies were identified as exhibiting the dimensional condition described below. None of the 11 assemblies were installed at the plant.

Supplier. ABB Inc., Electrification Service, 2300 Mechanicsville Road, Florence, South Carolina 29501.

Nature and extent of the defect and safety hazard. On July 29, 2026, Duke Energy notified ABB Florence of a potential deviation associated with a trip latch assembly, Part Number 196951K01 (Catalog Identification Number 318334), supplied under PO 03214575. During refurbishment of a QA-1 ABB 5HK350 2000A breaker, the breaker would not remain closed after installation of the new trip latch assembly and tripped open each time it was closed. Following reinstallation of the original trip latch assembly, the breaker operated as expected.

Duke Energy compared the new trip latch assembly to the previously installed assembly and identified that latch arms appeared to be welded in different positions. When placed on a flat surface, the top of the arm on the previously installed assembly measured approximately 2 inches, while the top of the arm on the new assembly measured approximately 2-1/4 inches. These comparison measurements were customer observations, and do not represent approved drawing acceptance limits.

The new trip latch assemblies were received under PO 03214575 on May 4, 2026, as a part of a lot consisting of eleven (11) units. Duke Energy subsequently inspected the remaining ten (10) assemblies and identified one additional assembly exhibiting a similar increased gap. None of the eleven (11) assemblies were installed in the plant.

ABB Engineering evaluated the affected assemblies and determined that the supplied parts did not conform to applicable design drawing requirements. Specifically, certain dimensions associated with the latch arm geometry were outside the specified design requirements.



ABB subsequently performed a functional evaluation of one affected trip latch assembly using a qualified test fixture at the Florence facility. The assembly failed to perform its intended function during testing. The observed failure mode was consistent with the condition reported by the customer and demonstrated that the nonconforming dimensional condition could adversely affect breaker operation.

Because the breaker is a safety-related basic component, the identified defect could prevent the breaker from performing its intended safety-related function when called upon to operate. As a result, ABB determined that the condition could create a substantial safety hazard as defined by 10 CFR Part 21.

Corrective actions. ABB is replacing the potentially affected trip latch assemblies for the customer. In addition, ABB has implemented corrective actions including enhanced engineering review of dimensional requirements, revised manufacturing controls and additional inspection and verification steps to prevent recurrence of this condition.

If you have any questions regarding this notification, please contact ABB at us-florence-warranty-support@abb.com or 843-413-4721

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, which appears to read 'John Weihering', is positioned below the 'Yours sincerely,' text.

John Weihering as authorized delegate for
Percy Isaac
Interim Plant Manager

ABB ELSE, 2300 Mechanicsville, Florence SC, 29501