



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

January 25, 2001

CHAIRMAN

MEMORANDUM TO: Hubert T. Bell
Inspector General

FROM: Richard A. Meserve 

SUBJECT: ACTIONS TAKEN IN RESPONSE TO IG EVENT INQUIRY ON
NRC'S HANDLING OF ISSUES ASSOCIATED WITH THE
FEBRUARY 15, 2000, STEAM GENERATOR TUBE RUPTURE
AT INDIAN POINT UNIT 2 POWER PLANT (CASE NO. 00-03S)

In response to your August 29, 2000 memorandum that forwarded the subject report, I directed the Executive Director for Operations (EDO) by an August 30, 2000 memorandum to conduct a review and analysis of the issues raised in the report. As a part of the review, the EDO was also asked to provide recommendations for improving NRC processes, and to propose a schedule for implementing them. I attach a copy of the EDO's response.

In addition, in response to the Indian Point Unit 2 tube rupture event, the Director of the Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation (NRR) established a lessons-learned task group to conduct an evaluation of the staff's technical and regulatory processes related to assuring steam generator tube integrity. This effort was undertaken in order to identify and recommend areas for improvement applicable to the NRC and/or the industry. This group also reviewed the Office of Nuclear Regulatory Research March 16, 2000 Technical Review and the OIG's Event Inquiry report. On November 1, 2000, the EDO forwarded the task group's Indian Point 2 Steam Generator Tube Failure Lessons-Learned Report to the Commission. A copy of this report is also attached.

Subsequently, a Steam Generator Action Plan (attached) was issued on November 16, 2000, which consolidates numerous staff activities related to steam generators. The milestones in the plan represent a grouping of various recommendations and observations made in the source documents, including the OIG's Event Inquiry Report.

As the attachments make clear, a number of actions have been initiated by the staff as a result of the evaluations of the incident at Indian Point Unit 2, including some beyond the scope of the OIG report. I believe that the actions being taken by the staff as a result of these activities are responsive to the issues raised in the OIG's Event Inquiry Report.

Attachments: As stated

cc w/o attachments:
Commissioner Dicus
Commissioner Diaz
Commissioner McGaffigan
Commissioner Merrifield
W. Travers, EDO

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