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UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
OFFICE OF INSPECTION AND ENFORCEMENT
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555

March 11, 1985

IE INFORMATION NOTICE NO. 85-19: ALLEGED FALSIFICATION OF CERTIFICATIONS
AND ALTERATION OF MARKINGS ON PIPING,
VALVES, AND FITTINGS

Addressees:

All nuclear power facilities holding an operating license (OL) or a construction permit (CP).

Purpose:

This information notice is provided to bring to the attention of licensees and construction permit holders allegations of falsification of certifications and alteration of markings on piping, valves, and fittings. It is expected that recipients will review the information for applicability to their facilities. However, suggestions contained in this information notice do not constitute NRC requirements; therefore, no specific action or written response is required.

Description of Circumstances:

On November 29, 1984, the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) was notified by the Portland General Electric Company (PGE) of a potentially reportable condition under 10 CFR 21 regarding components purchased by the licensee from Familian Northwest, 2121 N. Columbia Boulevard, Portland, Oregon. Familian Northwest is under investigation by the U.S. Customs Service in Portland, Oregon, the U.S. Attorney's office in Seattle, Washington, and the Cowlitz County (Washington) Sheriff's Department, with participation by the FBI. The investigation centers on allegations that the Familian Northwest facility at Longview, Washington has falsified certificates and altered markings on piping, valves, and fittings. The Longview facility is specifically alleged to have upgraded 304 and 316 stainless steel 1 1/2 inch pipe to 316L by grinding off the original marking and marking with the upgraded designation. Foreign pipe also is alleged to have been altered to indicate it was of domestic origin. These practices have allegedly been going on for a long time.

Familian Northwest is believed to have offices principally in the Northwestern United States, including Portland, Oregon; Anchorage, Alaska; and Seattle, Tacoma, Bremerton, Longview and Kennewick, Washington. The company has sales of approximately \$90 million annually in a wide range of plumbing supplies as well as power plant piping, valves, and fittings. Familian Northwest is also believed to import materials of the type discussed above from foreign manufacturers.

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Two points should be noted: (1) None of the allegations concerning Familian Northwest have been reported to the NRC as having been substantiated or proven to be true at this time; (2) Familian Corp, 7651 Woodman Avenue, Van Nuys, California 91402, has advised the NRC that Familian Northwest is a totally separate corporate entity from Familian Corp; neither sharing any officers/directors or shareholders. Familian Corp is a holding company with the following subsidiaries (among others): Familian Pipe and Supply Company; Familian Sierra Crafts, Inc.; Familian International Corporation.

No specific action or written response is required by this information notice. If you have any questions about this matter, please contact the Regional Administrator of the appropriate NRC regional office or this office.



Edward L. Jordan, Director
Division of Emergency Preparedness
and Engineering Response
Office of Inspection and Enforcement

Technical Contact: Henry Bailey, IE
(301) 492-9006

Attachment:
List of Recently Issued IE Information Notices

LIST OF RECENTLY ISSUED
 IE INFORMATION NOTICES

Information Notice No.	Subject	Date of Issue	Issued to
84-18	Failures Of Undervoltage Output Circuit Boards In The Westinghouse-Designed Solid State Protection System	3/7/85	All power reactor facilities holding an OL or CP
83-70 Sup. 1	Vibration-Induced Valve Failures	3/4/85	All power reactor facilities holding an OL or CP
85-17	Possible Sticking Of ASCO Solenoid Valves	3/1/85	All power reactor facilities holding an OL or CP
85-16	Time/Current Trip Curve Discrepancy Of ITE/Siemens-Allis Molded Case Circuit Breaker	2/27/85	All power reactor facilities holding an OL or CP
85-15	Nonconforming Structural Steel For Safety-Related Use	2/22/85	All power reactor facilities holding an OL or CP
85-14	Failure Of A Heavy Control Rod (B4C) Drive Assembly To Insert On A Trip Signal	2/22/85	All power reactor facilities holding an OL or CP
85-13	Consequences Of Using Soluble Dams	2/21/85	All BWR and PWR facilities holding an OL or CP
85-12	Recent Fuel Handling Events	2/11/85	All power reactor facilities holding an OL or CP
85-11	Licensee Programs For Inspection Of Electrical Raceway And Cable Installation	2/11/85	All power reactor facilities holding a CP
85-10	Posttensioned Containment Tendon Anchor Head Failure	2/6/85	All power reactor facilities holding an OL or CP

OL = Operating License
 CP = Construction Permit