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From: Paul Narbut, *NMS*
To: Robert Lewis
Date: 4/30/03 8:04AM
Subject: Note on Holtec violation decision

Rob:

Attached is the note you asked me to prepare regarding yesterday's management decision regarding the proposed violations associated with the hydrogen gas issue.

CC: TSSI Inspectors

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April 30, 2003

Holtec Hydrogen Generation Enforcement

In accordance with inspection and enforcement policy, on April 29, 2003, SFPO staff briefed SFPO upper management on the two violations that were proposed pursuant to the unexpected generation of hydrogen gas from Holtec spent fuel casks in the spent fuel pool at Columbia Generating Station in Richland, WA in July 2002. The violations were discussed with Holtec during an SFPO inspection at the Holtec offices in Marlton, NJ on April 22-24, 2003. At that time, Holtec was informed that the violations would be proposed to SFPO management, and that SFPO management would make a final decision.

One proposed violation was for a failure to obtain NRC approval prior to revising the FSAR to add hydrogen sampling and mitigation. The second violation was for inadequate design control measures for incompatible material control. Holtec had acknowledged the violation for material incompatibility, but did not agree with the violation for failure to obtain prior NRC approval for an FSAR change.

After deliberation, SFPO management determined that the violation for failure to obtain NRC approval prior to changing the FSAR was not warranted. Holtec was informed by telephone on April 29, 2003. The inspectors are documenting the results of the inspection. No further disagreements are anticipated.