



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
REGION II
101 MARIETTA ST., N.W., SUITE 3100
ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30303

OCT 22 1979

Report Nos. 50-390/79-34, 50-391/79-29

Licensee: Tennessee Valley Authority
500A Chestnut Street
Chattanooga, Tennessee 37401

Facility Name: Watts Bar Nuclear Plant

Docket Nos. 50-390, 50-391

License Nos. CPPR-91, CPPR-92

Inspection at Watts Bar Site near Spring City, Tennessee

Inspector: R. W. Wright
R. W. Wright

October 19, 1979
Date Signed

Approved by: F. S. Cantrell
F. S. Cantrell, Section Chief, RCES Branch

10/19/79
Date Signed

SUMMARY

Inspection on September 19-21, 1979

Areas Inspected

This routine unannounced inspection involved 20 inspector-hours onsite in the areas of procedural review and the implementation of nonconformance reports and conditions adverse to quality reporting.

Results

No apparent items of noncompliance or deviation were identified.

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DETAILS

1. Persons Contacted

License Employes

- *H. C. Richardson, Construction Engineer, NP
- *J. E. Treadway, Construction Superintendants, WBNP
- *A. W. Crevase, QA Manager, Office of Power
- *W. K. Anders, QA Engineer, OEDC-QA Staff
- *S. Johnson, Assistant Construction Engineer, WBNP
- *C. O. Christopher, Assistant Construction Engineer, WBNP
- *J. A. Morgan, Assistant Unit Supervisor-MEB, BNP
- *S. K. Walker, Mechanical Engineer-QC&R, NP
- T. W. Hayes, Unit Supervisor-IEU, WBNP
- J. A. Nicholls, Unit Supervisor-CEU, WBNP

*Attended exit interview

2. Exit Interview

The inspection scope and findings were summarized on September 21, 1979 with those persons indicated in Paragraph 1 above. J. C. Killian, Assistant Director, Division of Construction, was notified of these findings in paragraph 5 in a telephone call from the RCES Branch Chief, the Project Section Chief and the Inspector on September 25, 1979. Mr. Killian was requested to initiate a corporate audit to determine if these findings were valid, the source and extent of the problem and the required corrective action. The site was notified on September 27, 1979 that the "Handling of CAQR's and NCR's would be identified as unresolved item 50-390/79-34-01; 50-391/79-29-01 in this report.

3. Licensee Action On Previous Inspection Findings

Not inspected.

4. Unresolved Items

Unresolved Items are matters about which more information is required to determine whether they are acceptable or may involve noncompliances or deviations. New unresolved items identified during this inspection are discussed in paragraph 5b.

5. Nonconformance, Condition Adverse To Quality And Significant Condition Reporting

a. Procedural Review

The RII inspector reviewed the sites QA/QC procedures WBNP-QCP 1.4, "Conditions Adverse To Quality (CAQ) and Corrective Action"; WBNP-QCP

1.2, "Control of Nonconforming Items (NCR)"; and QAP 15.1, "Control of Nonconformance". Both nonconformance reporting systems (CAQR and NCR) require review by the site Construction Engineer for determination of significant conditions. By procedures, nonconformance's determined to be generic or repetitive are required to be documented by a CAQR. Additionally, any situation which is or if left uncorrected will be detrimental to the quality of critical structures, systems and/or components is required to be documented by a CAQR and reviewed for significance. Examples are failure to follow prescribed quality control procedures or instructions, breakdowns in portions of the QA program, and discovery of unexpected conditions not considered in the plant design. The above definition of a CAQR appears to parallel that of reportable conditions to the NRC under 10CFR50.55(e).

b. Review of NCR's and CAQ Reports

A sampling of NCR's and CAQR's were selected by the inspector from various engineering disciplines (civil, mechanical, instrumentation) to determine what kind of deficiencies were being identified, the corrective action specified, undesirable trends, completeness and that the deficiencies were receiving proper management review and attention. All NCR's/CAQR's examined were found to have been reviewed by the Construction Engineer or his designee.

Numerous repetitive NCR's and CAQR's (listed below) were found written by the Mechanical Engineering Unit for failure to follow procedures. Most of these NCR's/CAQR's identify conditions where work was performed by crafts bypassing QC procedures and required hold points in safety related systems. These examples generally pertain to instances where welds were cut out, subassemblies cut, or welding was initiated/completed in the field without adherence to procedures. The prevalent cause for these deficient conditions appears to be either craft unfamiliarity with control procedures or complete disregard for QA/QC procedures by the crafts. When all of these repetitive CAQR's/NCR's are considered collectively they represent a possible potential QA program breakdown in the safety related piping/welding area. The following NCR's and CAQR's are believed to be representative of the undesirable trend: NCR Nos. 1560R, 1634R, 1635R, 1636R, 1647R1, 1670R, 1708R, 1743R, 1771R, 1803R; CAQR's Nos. M-18, M-20, M-23, M-27, M-32, M-33, M-34, M-37.

The RII inspector identified the apparent craft indifference or lack of proper training problem at the exit meeting, and stated that he felt this constituted a noncompliance for failure to properly evaluate a significant condition reportable to the NRC under 10CFR50.55(e). The inspector stated he would advise his management of these findings and subsequently notify the site of RII's decision on this matter. On September 27, 1979, both the NRC Resident Inspector and the site Construction Engineer were advised that this item would be carried as an unresolved item that RII intends to pursue further. This item will be identified as unresolved item 50-390/79-34-01 and 50-391/79-29-01, "Handling of CAQR's and NCR's".