



DEC 22 1976

Mr. Norman C. Moseley, Director
Office of Inspection and Enforcement
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Region II - Suite 818
230 Peachtree Street, NW.
Atlanta, Georgia 30303

Dear Mr. Moseley:

WATTS BAR NUCLEAR PLANT - FIELD ASSEMBLED CONTROL STATION
TWO-POSITION SELECTOR SWITCH OPERATOR

The subject deficiency was initially reported to NRC-OIE Region II, Inspector V. L. Brownlee, on November 22, 1976, in accordance with 10 CFR 50.55(e).

The following constitutes the first interim report:

A false detent occurs when the switch handle is rotated to the extreme right position and then allowed to rotate slightly toward the left position. When this false detent occurs, the spring tension on the movable contact block is relieved sufficiently such that contact continuity is no longer reliable.

Had this nonconformance gone uncorrected, the possibility exists where defective switches could have been installed in Class IE equipment and their malfunction could have adversely affected the safety of operations of the Watts Bar Nuclear Plant.

TVA is analyzing this deficiency to determine the extent of the problem, the cause, and the corrective actions required.

Our final report is anticipated to be transmitted to your office by February 18, 1977.

Very truly yours,

J. E. Gilleland
Assistant Manager of Power

CC: Dr. Ernst Volgenau, Director
Office of Inspection and Enforcement
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, DC 20555