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TENNESSEE VALLEY AUTHORITY

CHATTANOOGA, TENNESSEE 37401

400 Chestnut Street Tower II

September 24, 1979

10 CFR 50.55(e)
FIRST INTERIM REPORT

Mr. James P. O'Reilly, Director
Office of Inspection and Enforcement
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Region II - Suite 3100
101 Marietta Street
Atlanta, Georgia 30303

Dear Mr. O'Reilly:

WATTS BAR NUCLEAR PLANT UNITS 1 AND 2 - REFUELING WATER STORAGE TANK
OVERFLOW LINE NOT FABRICATED TO ASME CODE - NCR 1725R - FIRST INTERIM
REPORT

The subject deficiency was initially reported to NRC-OIE Inspector
M. Thomas on August 24, 1979, in accordance with 10 CFR 50.55(e).
Enclosed is our first interim report. We expect to submit our next
report by November 30, 1979.

If you have any questions concerning this matter, please get in touch
with D. L. Lambert at FTS 854-2581.

Very truly yours,

TENNESSEE VALLEY AUTHORITY

L. M. Mills
L. M. Mills, Manager
Nuclear Regulation and Safety

Enclosure

cc: Mr. Victor Stello, Jr., Director (Enclosure)
Office of Inspection and Enforcement
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, DC 20555

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ENCLOSURE

WATTS BAR NUCLEAR PLANT UNITS 1 AND 2
REFUELING WATER STORAGE TANK OVERFLOW LINE
NOT FABRICATED TO ASME CODE
NCR 1725R
10 CFR 50.55(e)
FIRST INTERIM REPORT

Description of Deficiency

This deficiency was discovered by a TVA construction inspector who was inspecting a weld fitup of the Refueling Water Storage Tank (RWST) overflow line. This inspector noted lack of fusion and general poor quality of the weld. Subsequent review of the inspector's nonconformance report (NCR) by the Welding and Materials Section in TVA's Division of Design revealed that the RWST overflow line was not fabricated in accordance with the applicable subparagraphs of the ASME Code that would be compatible with the qualification of the RWST (i.e., Class II).

The RWST overflow line fabrication welds were not full penetration welds, nor were they inspected by radiographs in accordance with Section III of the ASME Code.

The cause of this deficiency was design employees at Pittsburgh-Des Moines Steel Company (who designed and fabricated this tank) did not properly specify the proper fabrication welds and NDE for the RWST in accordance with the ASME Code Section III.

Corrective Actions

TVA made a detailed review of the design of the Watts Bar Nuclear Plant RWST's as fabricated by Pittsburgh-Des Moines Steel Company. Procedures are now being formulated to direct the repairs to the RWST overflow pipe in order to bring that line into compliance with the ASME Code. TVA is in the process of examining designs of other TVA safety-related tanks supplied by Pittsburgh-Des Moines for indications of similar deficiencies. TVA was unaware of previous similar deficiencies in safety-related tanks designed and fabricated by Pittsburgh-Des Moines. If other deficiencies are subsequently discovered, these will be detailed, along with TVA's plans for repair, in a subsequent report on this deficiency.

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