

TENNESSEE VALLEY AUTHORITY

CHATTANOOGA, TENNESSEE 37401

400 Chestnut Street Tower II

December 1, 1980

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US NRC DISTRIBUTION SERVICES BRANCH

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 - FAILURE OF SAFETY-RELATED WESTINGHOUSE GATE VALVES - NCR WBN NEB 8013 - FIRST INTERIM REPORT

The subject condition was initially reported to NRC-OIE Inspector R. W. Wright on October 31, 1980, in accordance with 10 CFR 50.55(e). It is our understanding that Westinghouse has notified the NRC of 10 CFR 21 applicability.

Enclosed is our first interim report. We expect to provide additional information by March 23, 1981.

If you have any questions, please get in touch with D. L. Lambert at FTS 857-2581.

Very truly yours,

TENNESSEE VALLEY AUTHORITY

L. M. Mills, Manager
Nuclear Regulation and Safety

Enclosure

cc: Mr. Victor Stello, 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
FAILURE OF SAFETY-RELATED WESTINGHOUSE GATE VALVES
WBN NEB 8013
10 CFR 50.55(e)
FIRST INTERIM REPORT

Description of Condition

Westinghouse has informed TVA of problems encountered at two Westinghouse nuclear plants during preoperational testing of 3-inch gate valves manufactured by the Westinghouse Electro-Mechanical Division. The valves failed to close completely under preoperational test flow conditions which are less severe than the equipment specification design conditions. This problem may affect valves of this type when used in an "active" application (i.e., where the mechanical operation of the valve is required to accomplish a safety function). Watts Bar Nuclear Plant has received several of these valves as part of the NSSS contract. Two of these valves in each unit perform an active function as charging line isolation valves in the chemical and volume control system. In addition there are two of these valves in each unit in the reactor coolant system where they function as block valves for the pressurizer power-operated relief valves. PC# 9077

CBP 9069

Corrective Action

Westinghouse is continuing its investigation of this problem in order to develop appropriate modifications.