

December 5, 2011

Richard I. Couch  
19190 t.r.121  
Newcomerstown, Ohio 43832

SUBJECT: REPLY TO YOUR EMAIL DATED NOVEMBER 2, 2011, REGARDING  
COMMERCIAL NUCLEAR POWER PLANTS

Dear Mr. Couch:

On behalf of the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC), I am responding to your November 2, 2011, email to the Secretary to the NRC. You also addressed this email to NRC Commissioners and Senate members. Please note that this response is applicable only to that of the NRC. You stated that you are requesting an audit of the manufacturing process documentation for certain commercial nuclear power plant operating systems; and specifically mention the steam generator system at the Crystal River plant.

Commercial nuclear power plants in the United States (U.S.) are constructed and maintained according to relevant standards, such as those for reactor coolant piping and steam generators from the American Society of Mechanical Engineers. The NRC ensures U.S. nuclear power plant licensees construct, repair and maintain their systems according to these standards through various methods, including the NRC's Resident Inspector program. With respect to Crystal River, the plant is dealing with a concrete delamination issue in its containment building; the plant's reactor coolant piping and steam generators are unaffected.

If you believe you have specific information that a U.S. commercial nuclear power plant is not meeting relevant requirements, you are free to file a report with the NRC's Allegations Program (<http://www.nrc.gov/about-nrc/regulatory/allegations/safety-concern.html>).

Sincerely,

**/RA/**

Caroline L. Nguyen, Acting Chief  
Quality and Vendor Branch  
Division of Inspection and Regional Support  
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

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Sincerely,

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Caroline L. Nguyen, Acting Chief  
Quality and Vendor Branch  
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