

December 20, 2011

Mr. Akira Shimizu
General Manager
Nuclear Facilities Division
Obayashi Corporation
Shinagawa Intercity Tower B
2-15-2 Konan,
Minato-ku, Tokyo 108-8502
Japan

SUBJECT: ODAYASHI CORPORATION RESPONSE TO NRC INSPECTION REPORT
99901409/2011-201, NOTICE OF VIOLATION AND NOTICE OF
NONCONFORMANCE – REQUEST FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Dear Mr. Shimizu:

Thank you for your December 3, 2011 letter in response to the Notice of Violation (NOV) and Notice of Nonconformance (NON) that was discussed in the subject U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) inspection report (IR).

We reviewed your letter and found that it was not fully responsive to some of the issues discussed in IR 99901409/2011-201.

Specifically, the inspection report cover letter stated, in part, that “the NRC inspection team performed a limited scope inspection. The deficiencies identified may affect other portions of Obayashi’s Quality Assurance (QA) program that the NRC inspection team did not review. Therefore, Obayashi must extend its review, where applicable, beyond the specific examples identified by the NRC inspection team and apply corrective actions, as appropriate.” In your response to IR 99901409/2011-201, Obayashi did not address the impact of these issues on the overall QA program implementation and effectiveness (i.e., extent of condition). In addition, Obayashi failed to identify those aspects of its QA program for which it extended its review beyond the specific examples of the deficiencies identified by the NRC inspection team, the extent of its review, any additional deficiencies identified, and the corrective actions implemented.

Finally, the response did not adequately address NON 99901409/2011-201-03 as it relates to correctly implementing the provisions of the American Concrete Institute (ACI) 349, “Code Requirements for Nuclear Safety-Related Concrete Structures & Commentary.” In your response you stated that the design methodology for designing a shear wall (i.e., Wall 7.3) as a corbel was re-affirmed with Westinghouse Electric Company and that the applicability of ACI 349 provisions relating to similar design methodology has been verified and confirmed acceptable. Please provide further clarification as to how the design methodology was re-affirmed, verified, and confirmed to be acceptable. In particular, provide justification that the complex state of in-plane shear stress, due to intercepting floors and walls, can be idealized as a simple corbel element, and that in-plane shear stresses can be averaged over the entire 60-ft height of the wall.

Please recall that during the inspection, the inspection team was informed that Obayashi was going to revert to an earlier version of the calculation, which did not design the wall as a corbel as described in Section 3 of the inspection report.

In accordance with 10 CFR 2.390 "Public Inspections, Exemptions, Requests for Withholding," of the NRC's "Rules of Practice," a copy of this letter, its enclosure(s), and your response will be made available electronically for public inspection in the NRC Public Document Room or from the NRC's Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS), accessible from the NRC Web site at <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html>. To the extent possible, your response should not include any personal privacy, proprietary, or safeguards information so that it can be made available to the Public without redaction. If personal privacy or proprietary information is necessary to provide an acceptable response, then please provide a bracketed copy of your response that identifies the information that should be protected and a redacted copy of your response that deletes such information. If you request that such material is withheld from public disclosure, you must specifically identify the portions of your response that you seek to have withheld and provide in detail the bases for your claim (e.g., explain why the disclosure of information will create an unwarranted invasion of personal privacy or provide the information required by 10 CFR 2.390(b) to support a request for withholding confidential commercial or financial information). If safeguards information is necessary to provide an acceptable response, please provide the level of protection described in 10 CFR 73.21 "Protection of Safeguards Information: Performance Requirements."

Please contact Ms. Kerri Kavanagh at (301) 415-3743 or via electronic mail at Kerri.Kavanagh@nrc.gov, if you have any questions or need assistance regarding this matter.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Edward H. Roach, Chief
Mechanical Vendor Branch
Division of Construction Inspection
& Operational Programs
Office of New Reactors

Docket No. 99901409

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Edward H. Roach, Chief
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Docket No. 99901409

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