



UNITED STATES
ATOMIC ENERGY COMMISSION
DIVISION OF COMPLIANCE, REGION IV
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DENVER, COLORADO 80215

March 16, 1970

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TESTING OF REINFORCING STEEL

I have noted with interest the March 11 Inquiry Memorandum from our Newark office regarding the testing of reinforcing steel to determine its yield and ultimate strengths. It appears from the data presented and our experiences, that consistent, reliable results for these two parameters are difficult to obtain. I have received comments on the remark in our report (Erico 69-1) of the inspection of Erico Products, Inc., which was directed at the general problem of variation of yield and tensile data obtained from the subsized specimens of reinforcing steel. You will recall that Erico representatives stated to me (page 14 of the report) that reduced tensile specimens are normally taken from one quadrant of the rebar, causing the test values to represent a volume where surface work-hardening results in nonrepresentative strength data. I am interested in knowing whether this thesis, held by Erico personnel, could account for the variation in strength data such as reported in Mr. Carlson's Inquiry Memorandum.

1310K 3/23/70

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