

TENNESSEE VALLEY AUTHORITY

CHATTANOOGA, TENNESSEE 37401

400 Chestnut Street Tower II

September 11, 1979

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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

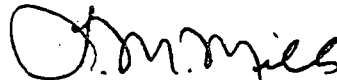
Dear Mr. O'Reilly:

Enclosed is our response to C. E. Murphy's August 17, 1979, letter, RII:RWW 50-553/79-11, 50-554/79-11, regarding activities at the Phipps Bend Nuclear Plant which appeared to have been in violation of NRC regulations.

We have reviewed the subject inspection report and find no proprietary information in the report. If you have any questions regarding this matter, please call Tish Jenkins at FTS 854-2014.

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

FINAL RESPONSE TO NRC-OIE LETTER
FROM C. E. MURPHY TO H. G. PARRIS
DATED AUGUST 17, 1979

(REFERENCE RII: RWW 50-553/79-11, 50-554/79-11)

This report responds to the following Notice of Violation described in Appendix A of OIE Inspection Report RII:RWW 50-553/79-11 and 50-554/79-11. This is the final report on this deficiency.

Noncompliance Item - Deficiency - 553/79-11-03

As required by 10CFR50, Appendix B, Criterion V and implemented by Phipps Bend PSAR Paragraph 17.1A.5, activities affecting quality shall be prescribed by documented procedures and shall be accomplished in accordance with those procedures. Phipps Bend Standard Operating Procedure SOP-10 requires that Cadweld cartridges be stored in a dry place and handled with care to avoid puncturing and should a cartridge be found that is punctured, the cartridge should be disposed of. Receiving, Inspection, Storage and Preventive Maintenance Procedure C-401 requires "C" level storage for cadweld sleeves with protection of rust inhibiting pipes until they are ready for use in the splicing procedure.

Contrary to the above, on August 1, 1979, a punctured Erico Cadweld cartridge (No. F-270) and three unprotected, thoroughly rusted No. 18 horizontal Cadweld sleeves were found exposed to the elements in Unit 1's containment basement area. No Cadwelding was in progress.

This is a deficiency.

Response

1. Corrective Steps Taken and Results Achieved

The punctured and wet Cadweld cartridge was removed from unit 1 reactor area and disposed of per PBN SOP-10. The three Cadweld sleeves were discarded due to rust damage.

2. Corrective Steps Taken to Avoid Further Noncompliance

Construction and inspection personnel were informed of this deficiency after notification by R. W. Wright of NRC-OIE. A followup meeting was held on August 30, 1979, with Civil Quality Control Inspectors to emphasize the need for handling and storing Cadweld materials in accordance with PBN SOP-10 and RIS & PM Procedure C-401.

3. Date When Full Compliance Was Achieved

Full compliance was achieved on August 3, 1979.