

No. 101

50-329

Date 11/13/73

DIRECTORATE OF REGULATORY OPERATIONS
NOTIFICATION OF AN INCIDENT OR OCCURRENCE

Facility: CONSUMERS POWER COMPANY (Midland Units No. 1 and No. 2)

Problem: CADWELD SPLICING OF CONCRETE REINFORCING BAR AT MIDLAND

A Region III inspection on November 6 - 8, 1973, at the Midland construction site, identified serious deficiencies associated with Cadweld splicing of concrete reinforcing bars. These deficiencies involved inadequate procedures for installing Cadweld splices, for material control, and for documenting required quality parameters. In addition, the Regulatory Operations inspectors determined that inspection techniques were inadequate and acceptance criteria used for quality requirements were being misapplied.

In telephone conversations on November 9, 1973, Consumers Power Company (CP) stated that they had shut down all Cadweld splicing operations at the site. Other unrelated work will continue at the site. CP agreed that the cadweld splicing operations would not be restarted at the site until: (1) all currently existing Cadweld splices have been reinspected by properly qualified inspection personnel and determined to meet quality requirements, and (2) a site inspection by Region III inspectors establishes that an acceptable program for Cadweld splicing has been developed and implemented.

All subject Cadweld splices at the site are accessible for inspection (i.e., none have been covered with concrete).

It is estimated that the corrective action program will result in a delay of at least one week in the Cadweld splicing program at the site.

Action by Regulatory Operations:

1. A letter has been sent to CP confirming our understanding of the corrective action program for Cadweld splicing.
2. A press release was issued to local papers and wire services on November 10, 1973.
3. Mr. Myron Cherry, Esq. (counsel for the Saginaw intervenor) was notified on November 9, 1973, of the applicant's shutdown of Cadweld splicing operation.
4. Regulatory Operations inspectors will be at the site upon completion of the corrective action program. The inspection will determine if the quality requirements have been satisfied for completed Cadwelds and to determine whether a revised Cadweld splicing QA program is in place to prevent recurrence of the problem.

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5. Chairman Ray's Special Assistant, Commissioner Doub's Technical Assistant, Commissioner Larson's Technical Assistant, Commissioner Anders' Temporary Assistant, Commissioner Kriegsman's Assistant, the staff of the Joint Committee on Atomic Energy, and the Office of Information Services have been notified by telephone.

Contact:

Further information concerning this occurrence can be obtained from:

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