

February 21, 1980

Mr. Harold R. Denton, Director
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation
United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, D. C. 20555

Fox-Howlett Rebar Coupler - Topical Report

Dear Mr. Denton:

You may recall that on February 2 of last year I wrote to Mr. Handrie complaining that we were not considered as a supplier of reinforcing steel couplers for Yellow Creek because the Fox Howlett coupler did not have NRC approval.

You replied that while our topical report on the coupler had been accepted for your technical review that more pressing matters have continued to delay a formal review by your engineering staff and that informal acceptance was being extended to the Code change identified as JC8-13 Incorporation of various splice systems now permitted by Code Cases.

In view of the suspension of the issuance of construction permits for nuclear plants following TMI we have not pressed the matter, however, in anticipation that this restriction may be lifted sometime in the future we would like to inquire as to the present status of the review by your technical staff so that when the above mentioned restriction is lifted we can submit competitive bids on this work.

Thank you for an early reply as we continue to receive inquiries as to the status of our report.

Very truly yours

FOX INDUSTRIES

Charles J. Fox

CJF/pk
cc: Karl Kniel
Gunter Arndt

8002270376