

JUN 09 1981

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Docket Nos. 50-315  
50-316

EA 81-55

American Electric Power Service  
Corporation  
ATTN: Mr. John E. Dolan  
Vice President, Engineering  
2 Broadway  
New York, N. Y. 10004



Gentlemen:

This refers to an inspection conducted by J. F. Pang of the NRC Region V Office on February 23, 1981, of a shipment of radioactive waste shipped from the D. C. Cook Nuclear Power Plant to the U. S. Ecology, Incorporated, Beatty, Nevada, disposal site. The inspection consisted of a review of shipping papers, placarding and labeling requirements, and selective contamination surveys and radiation measurements.

Based on the results of this inspection, it appears that certain of your activities were not conducted in full compliance with NRC requirements, as set forth in the Notice of Violation, enclosed herewith as Appendix A. Apparent violations were identified as a result of an inadequate quality assurance (QA) program for the packaging and shipping of low level radioactive waste. One of these items indicated that your QA program was not adequate to assure that low specific activity (LSA) materials will be packaged in strong, tight packages under conditions normally incident to transportation. Another significant item concerned the fact that you transferred material to the burial site in a form that the site was not authorized to receive. The violations have been categorized at the severity levels described in accordance with the Interim Enforcement Policy published in the Federal Register 45 FR 66754 (October 7, 1980). You are required to respond to Appendix A and in preparing your response you should follow the instructions specified in Appendix A.

The violations for which you have been cited have already been the subject of enforcement action by the State of Nevada. On February 23, 1981, the State of Nevada suspended your burial permit and issued a new permit on April 15, 1981. In view of the circumstances surrounding this matter, we have exercised our discretion under the Interim Enforcement Policy, 45 FR 66754 (October 7, 1980), and have chosen to issue at this time the enclosed Notice of Violation. After reviewing your response to this Notice of Violation and your proposed corrective actions, the NRC will determine whether further NRC enforcement action is necessary in order to ensure compliance with NRC regulatory requirements.

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American Electric Power  
Service Corporation

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In accordance with Section 2.790 of the NRC's "Rules of Practice," Part 2, Title 10, Code of Federal Regulations, a copy of this letter and the enclosure will be placed in the Commission's Public Document Room.

Sincerely,

Original signed by  
Dudley Thompson

Dudley Thompson, Director  
Division of Enforcement and Investigations  
Office of Inspection and Enforcement

Enclosure:  
Appendix A, Notice of Violation

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Department of Public Health  
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Division of Radiological Health  
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Office of the Attorney General  
ATTN: Hon. Frank J. Kelley  
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Department of Commerce  
ATTN: Daniel J. Demlow  
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