



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20555

~~2000~~
TERA

OCT 22 1979

The Honorable Alan Cranston
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Cranston:

Your note enclosing the letter from Matthew C. Jay to you dated April 18, 1979 has been referred to me for reply.

Mr. Jay stated that he has developed a method to prevent cracks in piping of Boiling Water Reactors, and indicates that he has not been able to interest anyone in using his method. However, neither the NRC staff nor the General Electric Company have been able to evaluate the efficacy of his ideas, because he has not described or explained to us any technical details regarding his proposed methods.

During the investigation of pipe cracking in Boiling Water Reactors by the NRC in 1976 by the first NRC pipe crack study group, Mr. Jay indicated that he could solve the problem. The study group invited him to present his ideas to them. Although a meeting with him was held on March 10, 1976, he did not choose to reveal any technical information regarding his proposed solutions. The General Electric Company also indicated an interest in his idea, and offered him a consulting contract on this subject. Mr. Jay apparently never responded to this offer. To the best of our knowledge, Mr. Jay has not contacted the NRC or the General Electric Company regarding this matter since 1976. If he has a patent pending on his concepts, as he states, there is no reason that he cannot provide appropriate technical information to us or the General Electric Company, to allow a technical assessment of his proposed solutions.

You may be interested to know that early in 1977, Mr. Jay wrote to President Carter and Representative Lou Frey regarding the same subject. In response to Representative Frey's inquiry, we pointed out our difficulty in getting information from Mr. Jay, and suggested ways that his ideas could be evaluated. A copy of our letter to Representative Frey is attached for your information.

Sincerely,

Original signed by M. G. Smith *for*

Lee V. Gossick
Executive Director for Operations

Enclosures:

1. Ltr. 5/23/77 William J. Dircks
to the Honorable Lou Frey, Jr.
2. Ltr. 8/22/79 Alan Cranston
to NRC w/encl.

1534 112

79121 2035