

MAR 3 1 1981



MEMORANDUM FOR: Victor Stello, Director
Office of Inspection and Enforcement

FROM: Carlyle Michelson, Director
Office for Analysis and Evaluation
of Operational Data

SUBJECT: FOLLOW-UP ON RECOMMENDED IE BULLETIN

On September 3, 1980 Arkansas Nuclear One (ANO) Unit 2 was required to shutdown as a result of service water flow blockage due to the presence of Asiatic clams. On October 21, 1980 this office issued a preliminary response that recommended information be requested from licensees on the presence of Asiatic clams and other bivalves and the extent of any fouling which they might have caused. In a meeting on November 17, 1980 between representatives of NRR, IE, and AEOD it was agreed that IE would send out a bulletin requesting this information. In an attempt to assist in this effort and to expedite its issuance, a bulletin was drafted by this office and forwarded to IE on January 5, 1981.

On February 23, 1981 a draft of the proposed bulletin was circulated for comment to the participating NRC offices and with a reply requested by March 3. Although we provided comments within the specified period, approximately three weeks has elapsed since the comments period ended and as yet the bulletin has not been issued. If there is any problem resolving the comments received we would be pleased to participate in a meeting with the principals to achieve a resolution. In any case, four months have elapsed since the decision was made to issue the bulletin and we feel the issuance of the bulletin is long overdue.

We know that Asiatic clams have caused flow blockage of cooling water to safety-related equipment not only at ANO but also at Dresden and all of TVA's plants. At marine sites such as Millstone, Pilgrim, San Onofre and Maine Yankee blue mussels have caused problems. Since we feel this is a potentially serious problem that could lead to common mode failure, we think it is important to inform the utilities and collect information on the extent and significance of this problem. We, therefore, request that your office allocate the resources needed to ensure the prompt issuance of this bulletin.

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If you have any questions regarding this matter, please contact Eugene Imbro or Joan Giannelli of my staff.

Original Signed by
Carlyle Michelson

Carlyle Michelson, Director
Office for Analysis and Evaluation
of Operational Data

cc: WDircks, EDO
MMasnik, NRR
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