

June 8, 1979

→ Note to: Accession Unit
Room 050
Phillips Building

From: *Gunter Arndt, SD*

Please place the attached document in the PDR using the following file and file points:

PDR File
(Select one and enter number)

Additional Info
(Enter if appropriate)

Proposed Rule (PR) _____
Reg. Guide 1.10 _____
Petition (PRM) _____
Effective Rule (RM) _____
ANSI _____
IAEA _____

ACRS Minutes No. _____
Relates to Proposed Rule (PR) _____
Relates to Reg. Guide _____
Relates to Petition (PRM) _____
Relates to Effective Rule (RM) _____
Federal Register Notice _____
SD Task No. _____
NUREG Report _____
Contract No. _____

Subject: *Fox-Howlett Rebar Splice*

cc:
Central Files

Note: Similar, earlier correspondence filed on this subject Aug - Sept 1977. Please add this correspondence to provide continuity and updating. Thank you.

E. Gunter Arndt, SD
Room 332 NL
443-5997

POOR ORIGINAL

570 001
7907240311

ROUTING AND TRANSMITTAL SLIP

Date:

June 7, 1979

TO: (Name, office symbol, room number, building, Agency/Post)	Initials	Date
1. Fox-Howlett Rebar Splice File		
2.		
3.		
4.		
5.		

Action	File	Note and Return
Approval	For Clearance	Per Conversation
As Requested	For Correction	Prepare Reply
Circulate	For Your Information	See Me
Comment	Investigate	Signature
Coordination	Justify	

REMARKS

Mr. C. Fox, of Fox Industries, came by this afternoon (~ 2:30 pm - 3:30 pm) to coordinate and update his information on the status of his splice in the ACI-ASME Code process, and his topical report submitted to the NRC last year.

DO NOT use this form as a RECORD of approvals, concurrences, disposals, clearances, and similar actions

FROM: (Name, org. symbol, Agency/Post)	Room No.—Bldg.
Gunter Arndt	Phone No.

5041-102
 * U.S. G.P.O. 1977-241-530/3090

OPTIONAL FORM 41 (Rev. 7-76)
 Prescribed by GSA
 FPMR (41 CFR) 101-11.206

POOR ORIGINAL

POOR ORIGINAL

570 002

TENNESSEE VALLEY AUTHORITY

KNOXVILLE, TENNESSEE 37902

MAY 24, 1979

Mr. Charles J. Fox
Fox Industries
722 Folger Avenue
Berkeley, California 94710

Dear Mr. Fox:

As promised in my April 2/ letter, the staff has reviewed the correspondence relative to your rebar coupler system. In inspecting the files on the Hartsville bid rejection (invitation 72-822237), later communications regarding the Yellow Creek Nuclear Plant (invitation 73-824811), and your as-yet unsuccessful effort to have the topical report on this subject approved by the NRC, I can appreciate your feeling of frustration in this matter.

Our position with respect to the Yellow Creek bids, however, may have been misunderstood. During our August 9, 1977, meeting with Fox Industries concerning the Hartsville rejection, TVA indicated that its application for Yellow Creek had been before the NRC for some time and reference to your coupler system could not be made without amending the application. Because of the status of the NRC review, NRC's unfamiliarity with your coupler system, and Regulatory Guide 1.10 approval of Cadweld splices, TVA could not amend its application without a potentially substantial and costly delay in the NRC review process. We have had no mechanism to reference your coupler system for NRC review and approval in a timely manner. Consequently, when we sought bids for Yellow Creek, they had to be consistent with NRC-approved methods, and Fox Industries' nonresponsive bid had to be rejected.

As indicated in Mr. Seeber's March 8, 1978, letter and in Mr. Stroud's letter of April 20, TVA has made a policy decision which should avoid this situation in the future. Specifically, any future nuclear plant construction applications will reference all mechanical rebar coupler systems that are technically acceptable to TVA, appear to have economic merit, and have ACI/ASME Code approval. Further, with its present work, TVA is exploring the use of other coupler systems, such as yours, in non-nuclear and/or non-safety-related applications where historically the rebar lap splicing technique has been used. I hope this explanation will clarify TVA's position in this matter.

Sincerely,


Leon E. Ring
General Manager

RECEIVED
MAY 20 1979

RELIANCE SHEET & STRIP CO.

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