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KANSAS GAS AND ELECTRIC COMPANY

GLENN L. KOESTER  
VICE PRESIDENT-OPERATIONS

September 11, 1979

Mr. W.C. Seidle, Chief  
Reactor, Construction and  
Engineering Support Branch  
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Region IV  
611 Ryan Plaza Drive, Suite 1000  
Arlington, Texas 76012

Re: STN 50-482  
Sub: Fire Protection Coating

Dear Mr. Seidle:

This letter is to keep you advised regarding our investigations related to the use of ALBI Duraspray fireproofing material at the Wolf Creek Station.

Investigations are being performed to examine alternate methods for removal of fireproofing overspray from stainless steel piping, what if any damage to stainless steel piping has resulted from contact with this product, and to evaluate new fireproofing materials which show potential for performing satisfactorily in service and have reduced chloride levels.

The investigations are not complete but preliminary results and conclusions are as follows:

- 1) Duraspray can be removed by wet cloths, brushing and/or scrapping, the method(s) required being a function of how long the material has been allowed to set. After cleaning by these methods, residual chloride concentrations remain. Tests have demonstrated this residual can be removed by nitric acid but other cleaning agents which are easier and safer to handle are being evaluated.
- 2) Penetrant tests of the stainless piping which has been contaminated with Duraspray and then cleaned have been performed. The tests show that cracks or other rejectable defects are not present.
- 3) Evaluations performed to date of alternate fireproofing materials indicate that there are new products available

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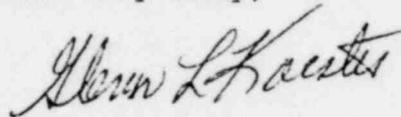
which appear to provide the required fire rating and which also have reduced amounts of chloride. Investigations of these materials are continuing.

In summary, we have not detected any damage caused by Duraspray material contacting stainless steel pipe; Duraspray can be and will be removed, however, further tests and analysis of Duraspray and potential alternate materials are being made.

It is our preliminary judgment that conditions reportable under Regulation 10CFR50.55(e) do not exist.

We will keep you advised if anything develops which changes the above preliminary conclusions. Until investigations of alternate products are complete, we are restricting the use of Duraspray to areas where stainless steel is not now and will not be installed.

Yours very truly,



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