Newport News Industrial Corporation

Subsidiary of Newport News Shipbuilding ATenneco Company 55-289



230 - 41st Street Newport News, Va. 23607 (804) 380-7273

79-188-000

December 6, 1979

United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission Region IV 611 Ryan Plaza Drive, Suite 1000 Arlington, Texas 76011

Attention:

Mr. Dolph Whitsell

Subject:

Beaver Valley Unit 2 Neutron Shield Tank

Owner, Duquesne Light Company

Gentlemen:

This letter is to confirm my conversation with Mr. Dolph Whitsell on December 3, 1979 concerning a potentially reportable problem related to us by Duquesne Light Company. Involved is a Neutron Shield Tank which serves as the primary support for the Reactor Vessel, fabricated to the requirements of ASME Section VIII Division I furnished by NNIC, but as yet not installed.

Briefly, the problem is as follows:

An overlap condition was observed at the toe of a 1/2" fillet weld joining the 1 1/2" skirt to the 4" base. Upon grinding of the overlap a linear indication was discovered and appears to be continuous around a significant portion of the circumference of the structure. During fabrication this weld was subjected to an MT inspection of the root, every 3rd layer, and final. Following these inspections the structure was subjected to Post Weld Heat Treatment.

We plan to resolve this problem by removing any defective areas, rewelding and performing appropriate NDE.

If there are any questions regarding this situation, please do not hesitate to call.

ours very truly,

M. V. Warren

Quality Assurance Engineering

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