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NORTHERN STATES POWER COMPANY

EAU CLAIRE, WISCONSIN 54701

ARTHUR V. DIENHART
VICE PRESIDENT
TYRONE ENERGY PARK PROJECT

May 11, 1979

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Mr J G Keppler, Director
Office of Inspection and Enforcement
U S Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Region III
799 Roosevelt Road
Glen Ellyn, Illinois 60137

TYRONE ENERGY PARK E-7470
Docket No. STN [illegible]-484

Dear Mr Keppler

Your letter dated March 12, 1979 forwarded for review and action IE Bulletin No. 79-03 concerning ASME SA-312 type 304 fusion welded stainless steel pipe spools manufactured by Youngstown Welding and Engineering Company. The following information concerning the use or potential use of fusion welded pipe spools manufactured by Youngstown has been developed and is forwarded as an interim response to the subject Bulletin. This information has been developed generically to all five SNUPPS units. The SNUPPS units are Callaway I and II, Wolf Creek, Sterling, and Tyrone Energy Park. The need for additional actions applicable specifically to Tyrone Energy Park will be indicated in a follow-up response. The items below are numbered to coincide with action items listed in the NRC Bulletin.

1. A survey of current SNUPPS suppliers of pipe spools and pre-assembled pipe formations indicates that only Dravo Corporation, Marietta, Ohio, has supplied pipe spools containing fusion welded SA-312 type 304 pipe (without filler material) manufactured by Youngstown Welding and Engineering Company. To date, the total number of Dravo-supplied pipe spools shipped to Callaway and Wolf Creek sites containing Youngstown-manufactured materials is 65 and 70, respectively. To date there have been no pipe spools of any type fabricated for or shipped to Sterling or Tyrone sites. Dravo is currently in the process of identifying other spools in fabrication which they plan to ship to SNUPPS jobsites and which contain the referenced fusion welded pipe. This review process can be expected to continue over the next several months to obtain sufficient data concerning the quality and acceptability of the Youngstown pipe being furnished for SNUPPS.

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2. As indicated in item 1 above, a total of 65 and 70 pipe spools containing fusion welded SA312 type 304 pipe manufactured by Youngstown have to date been shipped to Callaway and Wolf Creek sites, respectively. A listing indicating pipe spools currently in fabrication for shipment to the Tyrone jobsite will be furnished in a follow-up to this interim report.

3. Each longitudinal weld seam of fusion welded SA312 type 304 pipe manufactured by Youngstown and presently on site at Callaway and Wolf Creek plants will be ultrasonically examined. This examination will be limited only by accessibility considerations which, according to preliminary site data, will impact fewer than 10 percent of the total number of spools previously installed. The examination procedure, reference standards, and acceptance criteria shall be performed in accordance with Paragraph NC-2552 of the 1977 edition of ASME Section III Code. Any repairs requiring welding shall be in accordance with Paragraph NC-2559 of the 1977 edition of the ASME Section III Code. The preceding on-site examinations will be performed over the next 60 days and the results tabulated for transmittal to NRC.

   Ultrasonic examinations will also be performed on all pipe spools presently in fabrication at Dravo containing fusion welded SA312 type 304 pipe. Acceptance criteria and repair provisions will be the same as indicated above. The results of these additional examinations as they relate to Tyrone Energy Park will be included in a follow-up to this interim report.

4. This item is applicable to holders of operating licenses only.

5. The ultrasonic examinations being performed at Callaway and Wolf Creek sites are scheduled for completion within the next 60 days and will be referenced into a follow-up to this interim report. The results of ultrasonic examinations of pipe currently in fabrication at Dravo will also be referenced in the follow-up report which is presently scheduled for transmittal to NRC by August 10, 1979. The need for further corrective actions will be indicated in the follow-up response.

Yours very truly

Arthur V. Dienhart, P.E.

Arthur V Dienhart
Vice President
Tyrone Energy Park Project

cc U S Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Office of Inspection and Enforcement
Division of Reactor Operations Inspection
Washington, D C 20555

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