



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20545

NRC PDR

April 20, 1979

Docket No. 50-313

Mr. William Cavanaugh, III
Vice President, Generation
and Construction
P. O. Box 551
Little Rock, Arkansas 72203

Dear Mr. Cavanaugh:

In 1978 Babcock and Wilcox found that Arkansas Nuclear One Unit 1 (ANO-1) reactor vessel was one of the 12 which might contain what they termed atypical weld metal. The high silicon, low nickel, weld metal exhibited a Reference Temperature (RT_{NDT}) of 120F. Therefore, this temperature was established as the minimum stud tensioning temperature until such time as it could be shown that ANO-1 actually had no atypical weld metal or that 70 F was an allowable RT_{NDT} temperature by virtue of more precise analysis.

By letter dated December 7, 1978, and supported by letter dated April 16, 1979, you requested that stud tensioning (detensioning) at 70 F be allowed at ANO-1.

We have reviewed the fracture toughness test data presented in your letter of April 16, 1979, and find that stud tensioning at 70 F does not entail a safety hazard and therefore, can be allowed.

The technical basis for our findings are discussed in the enclosed safety evaluation.

Sincerely,

Robert W. Reid, Chief
Operating Reactors Branch #4
Division of Operating Reactors

Enclosure:
Safety Evaluation

cc w/enclosure: See next page

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