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January 18, 1980

Mr. Boyce H. Grier, Director
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Office of Inspection and Enforcement
Region 1
631 Park Avenue
King of Prussia, Pennsylvania 19406

Dear Mr. Grier:

WELD WIRE DOCUMENTATION
10CFR50.55(e); "SIGNIFICANT DEFICIENCY"
NO. 1 AND 2 UNITS
HOPE CREEK GENERATING STATION

On August 31, 1979 a verbal report was made to Region 1, Office of Inspection and Enforcement representative Mr. L. Narrow, advising of a potential significant item regarding a discrepancy in the procurement of weld wire. This verbal report was provided in accordance with the provisions of 10CFR50.55(e).

Supplemental information was submitted in writing to Region 1, Office of Inspection and Enforcement on September 26, 1979 with the indication that analysis and corrective actions described were continuing with an expected completion date of January 18, 1980.

The following information is a second interim report concerning Pittsburgh Des Moines' use of 8018-C3 weld filler metal. The filler metal was used in post-weld heat-treated weldments for NF applications, but was tested for only the as-welded condition.

The following activities have been completed since the first interim report:

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1. PDM has issued a new electrode specification, ES-7.5.2, Revision A, which requires testing of E8018-C3 filler metal in both the as-welded and the post-welded heat-treated (PWHT) condition.
2. PDM has issued the following revisions to welding procedure specifications:

WPS 70-71, Revision A
WPS 70-72, Revision B
WPS 73-73, Revision H

requiring electrodes to be tested in the post-weld heat-created condition for welds that will be post-weld heat-treated.

3. PDM has completed their investigation which revealed that only four of the heats of filler metal procured under Electrode Specification ES-7.5.1, Revision A, were improperly used in containment fabrication. These PDM I.D. Nos. are:

A3297 for Unit 1
A2138 for Unit 1
A2988 for Unit 1
A8913 for Unit 2

4. PDM has issued Engineering Corrective Action Requests 15675-138 (9/16/79) and 15676-74 (11/20/79) addressing the following filler metal heats:

I.D. A2988 - Tests qualifying this heat in the PWHT condition have been located. Revision of CMTR's is addressed.

I.D. A2138 - Tests qualifying these heats in the PWHT condition could not be located, however, several weld joints, where only these heats of electrodes were used, have been isolated. Issuance of a repair procedure, RP-19 (Revisions 0 & A), and removal of specimens from weld seams for testing are addressed.

I.D. A3297 - Tests qualifying this heat in the PWHT condition could not be located. In addition, welds where only this heat was used could not be isolated. Removal of questionable weld metal from weld joints, and replacement of it with acceptable material are addressed.

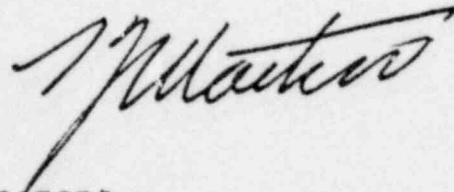
5. PDM has completed the coupon removal and testing program for heats A2138 and A8913; the testing results are acceptable.
6. Repair Procedure RP-19, Revision B, which addresses the repair of the stiffeners, where the coupons were removed, and weld removal and replacement for heat I.D. A3297, has been accepted by Bechtel.

Future activities to be completed are listed as follows:

1. PDM will amend the original CMTR's for heat I.D. A2988 and recertify them for use in the post-weld heat-treated condition.
2. PDM will repair the stiffeners where the coupons were removed, and will complete removal and rewelding of seams of heat I.D. A3297 by January 25, 1980.

The investigation into the analysis of safety implications and corrective actions as described above are continuing with an expected completion date of March 14, 1980, at which time a complete report will be filed. Should you require additional information, we will be pleased to discuss it with you.

Very truly yours,



CC: Office of Inspection and Enforcement
Division of Reactor Construction Inspection
Washington, D. C.