



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
REGION III
799 ROOSEVELT ROAD
GLEN ELLYN, ILLINOIS 60137

TERA

MAR 12 1979

Docket No. 50-329
Docket No. 50-330

Consumers Power Company
ATTN: Mr. Stephen H. Howell
Vice President
1945 West Parnall Road
Jackson, MI 49201

Gentlemen:

Enclosed is IE Bulletin No. 79-03, which requires action by you with regard to your power reactor facilities with an operating license or a construction permit.

Should you have any questions regarding this Bulletin or the actions required of you, please contact this office.

Sincerely,

Gen W. Roy
for James G. Keppler
Director

Enclosures:

1. IE Bulletin No. 79-03
2. List of IE Bulletins
Issued in Last
Twelve Months

cc w/encls:

Central Files
Director, NRR/DPM
Director, NRR/DOR
PDR
Local PDR
NSIC
TIC
Ronald Callen, Michigan Public
Service Commission
Dr. Wayne E. North
Myron M. Cherry, Chicago

7903190 549

U.S. NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
OFFICE OF INSPECTION AND ENFORCEMENT

REGION III

March 12, 1979

IE Bulletin No. 79-03

LONGITUDINAL WELD DEFECTS IN ASME SA-312 TYPE 304 STAINLESS STEEL
PIPE SPOOLS MANUFACTURED BY YOUNGSTOWN WELDING AND ENGINEERING COMPANY

Description of Circumstances:

On September 27, 1978, the Arizona Public Service Company reported that defects had been discovered in longitudinal welds in ASME Section III class 2 pipe supplied for the Palo Verde Nuclear Generating Station (PVNGS). On November 17, 1978, the Southern California Edison Company reported similar defects in pipe supplied for the San Onofre Nuclear Generating Station, Units 2 and 3.

Pullman Power Products of Los Angeles, California supplies safety-related fabricated piping spools of various diameters for the PVNGS. The defects were discovered by Pullman in ASME SA-312 type 304 stainless steel pipe supplied to Pullman by Youngstown Welding and Engineering Company of Youngstown, Ohio. The pipe is manufactured by rolling plate into cylinders and then fusion welding the longitudinal seam without filler metal.

Pullman discovered defects in the longitudinal welds while radiographing their circumferential shop welds. Further radiographic examination of the longitudinal welds revealed rejectable porosity and lack of fusion.

Pullman then performed ultrasonic examination of the full length of the longitudinal welds and discovered indications exceeding the acceptance criteria of ASME Section III. Further ultrasonic examination revealed indications in other piping subassemblies where pipe was supplied by Youngstown. Two indications verified by radiography were identified as porosity and measured 0.350 inch by 0.125 inch in one case and 0.300 inch by 0.125 inch in another case in pipe with a nominal wall thickness of 0.375 inch.

The additional examinations revealed that of 103 spools and four pipe supports shipped to PVNGS, 44 spools and one pipe support were found to contain ultrasonic indications exceeding those permitted by the ASME Code. Of 65 partially fabricated piping spools, 30 were found to be similarly defective. The acceptance criteria for the pipe supplied by Youngstown includes 100 percent ultrasonic examination of the longitudinal

7903160138

DUPE