

JAN 8 1980

Mr. James T. Wiglesworth, Esq.
Rainey and Wiglesworth
Suite 400, General Square Center
9800 Metcalf
Overland Park, Kansas 66212

Dear Mr. Wiglesworth:

This is in response to your letter of November 13, 1979 which alleged that there existed "a void in the concrete of the primary reactor wall, the wall closest to the pressure vessel, which was discovered in mid July, 1979."

At the time of the receipt of your letter we had no knowledge of any such void. The description of the location of the void indicates to us that you are referring to the reactor cavity/primary shield wall region. During the period of November 28 through November 30, 1979 a Region IV inspector was on site and we specifically pursued the question of a void in the primary shield wall. Our inspector searched the noncompliance reports, questioned the quality assurance personnel and then viewed the wall itself. We could find no record of a void but site personnel recalled a void which was not considered reportable. The void was a surface area void which had been repaired under the licensee's procedures.

The repaired area consisted of voiding and honeycomb over a distance of 18" on the circumference of the primary shield wall and was 3 to 4" in height and 1" deep. This void did not expose reinforcing steel but existed only in the outer concrete cover. The steps that were taken by the licensee's contractors have been reviewed and were in conformance with acceptable procedures and specifications. The type of void or honeycombing in this instance is of no structural concern and occurs occasionally during the course of construction. The void described here did not require engineering review on the part of the licensee and certainly would not be a void which the NRC would consider reportable under 10 CFR 50.55(e). The cause of the void was most likely due to inadequate vibration of the plastic concrete.

We appreciate your concern for quality during the construction of the Wolf Creek facility and hope that this answers your concern. If the information you have is not consistent with the description of the surface void please provide additional detail.

Sincerely,
Original signed
Victor Stello

Victor Stello, Jr.
Director
Office of Inspection
and Enforcement

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SEE PREVIOUS YELLOW FOR CONCURRENCES

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1/7/80	Surname	Shewmaker	Reinmuth	Thornburg	Murray	Thompson	Stello
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Mr. James T. Wiglesworth, Esq.

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