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THE CINCINNATI GAS & ELECTRIC COMPANY

CINCINNATI, OHIO 45201

E. A. BORGMANN
VICE PRESIDENT

March 21, 1980

United States
Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Office of Inspection and Enforcement
Region III
799 Roosevelt Road
Glen Ellyn, Illinois 60137

Attention: Mr. James G. Keppler
Regional Director

RE: WM. H. ZIMMER NUCLEAR POWER STATION
UNIT 1 - IE BULLETIN 80-03, DOCKET
NO. 50-358, W.O. 57300, JOB E-5590

Gentlemen:

In response to the above IE Bulletin concerning the the loss of charcoal from standard adsorber cells, please be advised that the Zimmer Plant has no charcoal adsorber filter beds supplied by Flanders. The adsorber filters at Zimmer were supplied by CVI Penwalt Corporation and American Air Filter, and since the Zimmer Station has not yet been licensed for operation, we have no operating experience on these filters. The filters we have were visually inspected, and our findings are as follows.

The CVI units are all of the High Efficiency Charcoal Adsorber (HECA) design where the charcoal filter modules are all welded construction with vertically oriented beds, permanently mounted in the housing. The cells were inspected wherever the screen was attached to the casing. Method of attachment was by use of spotwelding every two inches. The bond was tight at every location with no bulges or separations between the welds where the screen meets the casing. Periodic inspection of these areas will be made in accordance with approved procedures when the cells are filled and after the plant is in operation.

To: United States
Nuclear Regulatory Commission

March 21, 1980

Re: Wm. H. Zimmer Nuclear Power Station
Unit 1 - IE Bulletin 80-03

The filter cell design supplied by American Air Filter consists of a hollow cylinder of charcoal with the air inlet at one end of the cylinder with the air filtering out through the cylinder walls. The stainless steel screen is seal welded continuously around the top (inlet) end, both inside and out. The floor of the cylinder is a solid steel plate. The method of attaching the screen to the base could not be determined from the outside of the cell. No rivets nor signs of welding were discernible. The cells were shipped full of charcoal and no signs of any charcoal escapage were detected. No means were available to empty the cells, and the likelihood of being able to visually inspect the bottom of the cells if they were empty is doubtful. Some slight bulging and separation could be seen around the joint of the screen and base, but since the internal method of attachment was undiscernible, the results of the visual inspection are inconclusive. American Air Filter has been contacted to supply detailed information on the joint between the screen and base. We expect to issue a supplement to this response in about two weeks when more detailed information has been received on the base joint of the American Air Filter cells.

Very truly yours,

THE CINCINNATI GAS & ELECTRIC COMPANY

By E. A. Borgmann
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