

NOTICE OF DEVIATION

Based on results of an NRC inspection conducted on April 29 - May 2, 1980, it appears that certain of your activities were not conducted in accordance with NRC requirements.

Criterion V of Appendix B to 10 CFR 50 states:

"Activities affecting quality shall be prescribed by documented instructions, procedures, or drawings, of a type appropriate to the circumstances and shall be accomplished in accordance with these instructions, procedures or drawings. Instructions, procedures, or drawings shall include appropriate quantitative or qualitative acceptance criteria for determining that important activities have been satisfactorily accomplished."

Deviations from these requirements are as follows:

- A. Procedure, Fuel Pellet Sample Selection, QC-929, Revision 3, paragraph 4.2.3. states in part; "Identify each fuel pellet box with a 'QC Sampled' stamp as the pellet samples are pulled for the master sample."

Contrary to the above, an inspection of the sampling of lot 6 on project 67E found 10 boxes that were stamped but not sampled. (See Details paragraph B.3.)

- B. The Quality Assurance Manual, Revision 10, Section 15, part 2.1.2 states; "Non-conforming components shall be separated from conforming components and identified (tagged, marked) as being non-conforming."

Contrary to the above, a tray of 50 fuel rods was found in which approximately 15 non-conforming fuel rods were not identified as non-conforming. (See Details paragraph D.3.c.)

- C. Qualification report, Qualification of Burnable Poison Rod Tower End Plug Weld and Verification of Burnable Poison Rod Upper End Plug Weld, ME-008, requires that the parameters specified in the qualification be used to control the fabrication process.

Contrary to the above, the amperage limits, a parameter specified in the qualification were not included in the fabrication process procedure. In addition the voltage limits, another parameter specified in both the qualification and the procedure were exceeded. (See Details paragraph E.3.c.)

General Information: A fuel rod failure at Rancho Seco was discussed and video tape of the failure reviewed. It appears to be an isolated event perhaps due to a handling accident.