

DEC 7 1976

MEMORANDUM FOR: William Ryan, Acting, Assistant Director
for Investigations
Office of Inspector and Auditor

FROM: Arthur Schnebelen /s/
Office of Inspector and Auditor

SUBJECT: POTENTIAL SAFETY PROBLEM SURRY NO. 1

During a recent interview I was conducting, regarding a pending investigation, an employee of IE, NRC, advised me of a possible safety problem at Surry 1.

The employee stated that when [redacted] was at Region II, a [redacted] an inspector with Region II, conducted an inspection at Surry 1. During the inspection, [redacted] found some bad welds in the neutron shield of Unit 1. The employee stated that [redacted] had supported his findings of bad welds with radiographs. However, upon returning to the office, the principal inspector pulled this finding out of the report and in the exact words of the employee, "swept it under the rug." According to the employee, the final report that was issued to the licensee did not mention the problem of the bad welds in the neutron shield. [redacted] further stated that, in [redacted] opinion, if this is looked at today, the same problem still exists and the plant would have to shut down.

The employee asked that if possible, [redacted] identification remain confidential.

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