

December 10, 1976

MEMORANDUM FOR: John G. Davis, Deputy Director
Office of Inspection and Enforcement

FROM: Thomas J. McTiernan, Director
Office of Inspector and Auditor

SUBJECT: POTENTIAL SAFETY PROBLEM SURRY NO. 1
"OPEN DOOR" MATTER

During a recent visit of one of our people to Region IV, in connection with another matter, a Region IV employee, who requested that identity remain confidential, furnished some information which states poses a safety problem at Surry No. 1. Following is an excerpt from our employee's memorandum to file relating to this problem:

"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 [redacted] 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."

May we have the benefit of your views in this matter, in order that we can assess our responsibility?

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Thomas J. McTiernan, Director
Office of Inspector and Auditor

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