

# GENERAL ELECTRIC

NUCLEAR ENERGY  
BUSINESS GROUP

GENERAL ELECTRIC COMPANY, 175 CURTNER AVE., SAN JOSE, CALIFORNIA 95125

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January 11, 1980

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EXPORT/IMPORT  
AND  
INTERNAT'L SFGRDS

Mr. James R. Shea, Director  
Office of International Programs  
MNBB 8103  
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Washington, D.C. 20555

Subject: Expedited Issuance of XCOM 250

Dear Mr. Shea:

This confirms information discussed today by phone with Mr. William Upshaw of your staff.

As stated in my letter to you of October 1, 1979, only one spare traversing incore probe (TIP) was available at the Tarapur Atomic Power Station (TAPS) and it was used to replace a failed TIP during the October outage of reactor Unit Two.

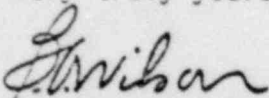
This leaves absolutely no available spares for the scheduled replacements of the two TIPs in Unit One. That unit was shut down for refueling and maintenance on November 28, 1979. It is scheduled for return to service on February 28, 1980.

Although TAPS has approved air shipment of the six probes (a costly and unusual instruction from TAPS), there is scarcely enough time remaining before the planned February 28, 1980 Unit One startup to accommodate the needs to complete shipping arrangements, for air shipment to Bombay, trucking to TAPS site, inspection, testing, preparation, removal of old failed units to storage casks and installation of the spares.

We therefore urge your best efforts to issue XCOM 250 immediately in order to avoid both of the unacceptable alternative consequences; i.e., (a) remain inoperative until the spare units are exported and replaced or, (b) attempt potentially unsafe start-up with faulty instrumentation, if Government of India safety regulations permit.

Your immediate attention to this matter is appreciated.

Very truly yours,



B. D. Wilson, Manager  
Government Relations and Export Licensing

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