



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
REGION IV
611 RYAN PLAZA DRIVE, SUITE 1000
ARLINGTON, TEXAS 76011

IE FILE COPY,

April 25, 1978

Docket No. 50-313

Arkansas Power and Light Company
ATTN: Mr. William Cavanaugh III
Executive Director of Generation
and Construction
P. O. Box 551
Little Rock, Arkansas 72203

Gentlemen:

We have received your reply dated March 20, 1978, in response to our Notice of Violation dated February 24, 1978. We have also reviewed your internal memorandum dated March 8, 1978, and your company records relative to the apparent item of noncompliance. Based on our review, we have concluded that your actions taken following reporting of internal pitting in the decay heat removal and building spray systems, were equivalent to the actions specified in your Quality Assurance Plan; however, these actions were apparently not documented until after our citation.

In your reply you indicated that you do not consider the reported pitting to be a deviation, deficiency, malfunction or other abnormal occurrence or condition. Our position is that detection of pitting type degradation of stainless steel piping used in safety related systems would be a deficiency or an abnormal condition. Your engineering review of February 11, 1977, as documented in your internal memorandum dated March 8, 1978, which supported the continued use of this pipe, appears to indicate that you likewise felt that the observed pitting was an area of concern. Accordingly, it is our position that paragraph 16.2.1 of your QA Manual was an appropriate basis for documentation and disposition of this observed condition.

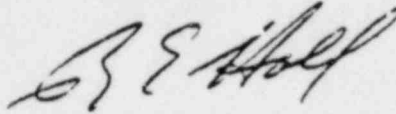
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Since we continue to consider this item to be an infraction, please provide the corrective steps which will be taken to avoid further noncompliance in this area.

Sincerely,



R. E. Hall, Acting Chief,
Reactor Operations and
Nuclear Support Branch

cc:

J. Anderson, Plant Superintendent
Arkansas Nuclear One
P. O. Box 608
Russellville, Arkansas 73801

L. Alexander, QC Supervisor
(Same Address)