TENNESSEE VALLEY AUTHORITY

CHATTANOOGA, TENNESSEE 37401 400 Chestnut Street Tower II

80-022-032-

November 3, 1980

Mr. James P. O'Reilly, Director Office of Inspection and Enforcement U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission Region II - Suite 3100 101 Marietta Street Atlanta, Georgia 30303

Dear Mr. O'Reilly:

PHIPPS BEND NUCLEAR PLANT - REPORTABLE DEFICIENCY - U.S. STEEL PIPE WITH LONGITUDINAL CRACKS (NCR PBNP 154)

Initial notification of the subject deficiency was made to NRC-OIE, Region II, Inspector R. W. Wright on October 3, 1980. In compliance with paragraph 50.55(e) of 10 CFR Part 50, we are enclosing the first interim report on the subject deficiency. We consider 10 CFR Part 21 applicable to this nonconformance. TVA anticipates transmitting the final report on or before February 2, 1081. If you have any questions, please call Jim Domer at FTS 857-2014.

Very truly yours,

TENNESSEE VALLEY AUTHORITY

L. M. Mills, Manager

Nuclear Regulation and Safety

Enclosure

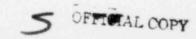
oc: Mr. Victor Stello, Director (Enclosure)
Office of Inspection and Enforcement
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, DC 20555

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ENCLOSURE

PHIPPS BEND NUCLEAR PLANT UNITS 1 AND 2 U.S. STEEL PIPE WITH LONGITUDINAL CRACKS 10 CFR PART 50.55(e) REPORT NO. 1 (INTERIM)

On October 3, 1980, TVA informed NRC-OIE, Region II, Inspector R. W. Wright of a condition regarding longitudinal cracks in U.S. Steel carbon steel piping at Phipps Bend Nuclear Plant. This is the first interim report on the subject reportable deficiency. The final report will be filed on or before February 2, 1981.

Description of Deficiency

Three heats of seamless eight-inch schedule 80 SA106B (heat Nos. L6244B, L63651, and L63647) purchased from Guyon Alloys under contract to TVA have displayed longitudinal cracks. These cracks are not necessarily visible to the naked eye and have been detected by NDE procedures. The largest crack was 10 feet in length; one crack penetrated 80 percent of the pipe wall thickness. This piping could have been used in any code system calling for this material. In no case has this piping been installed in any system or component that is to function under pressure.

Interim Progress

Representatives of TVA, U.S. Steel, and Guyon Allys are to meetonsite for evaluation and testing of the subject piping. The extent of this deficiency and the corrective action to be taken should be determined at this meeting.