



KANSAS GAS AND ELECTRIC COMPANY

GLENN L. KOESTER
VICE PRESIDENT - NUCLEAR

October 30, 1980

Mr. W.C. Seidle, Chief
Reactor Construction and
Engineering Support Branch
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Region IV
611 Ryan Plaza Drive
Suite 1000
Arlington, Texas 76011

KMLNRC-036
Re: NRC Docket No. STN 50-482/Rpt. 80-18

Dear Mr. Seidle:

This letter is written in response to your letter of October 8, 1980. As requested, the finding is addressed in three parts:

- a) Corrective steps which have been taken and the results achieved;
- b) Corrective steps which have been taken to avoid further noncompliance; and
- c) The date when full compliance will be achieved.

Finding

On October 1, 1980, the RRI observed two Daniel welders performing SMAW welding utilizing low hydrogen electrodes (7018) on a portion of the Essential Service Water system below grade piping which runs adjacent to the Control Building penetration. The following items are failures to follow the CWP-503 procedural requirements:

1. Low hydrogen electrodes were not maintained in heated containers but were carried about in stub buckets. The containers were found to be unheated.
2. The welders were not utilizing their welding pouches to hold the electrodes. The electrodes were cold to the touch and had been out of a heated storage caddy for more than one hour. No electrodes bent 180° were observed in the

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stub buckets or in the adjacent area.

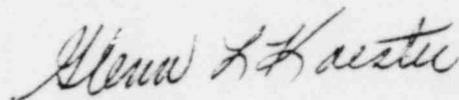
3. Welding was being done using the over-exposed and cold low hydrogen electrodes.

Response

- a) The identified use of cold electrodes was documented on Deficiency Report LSD5033M. To assure the metallurgical soundness of the weld, the deficiency report disposition required the removal, by grinding, of the portion of the weld deposited by the Shielded Manual Arc process. Such removal was verified by QC inspection. Rewelding was performed in accordance with welding procedure CWP-503.
- b) The two welders responsible for the improper care of welding electrodes were reprimanded and given a three-day suspension without pay. In accordance with Daniel's policy on weld rod control, any further violation by these welders will result in their termination.
- c) Full compliance was achieved on October 28, 1980.

Please advise if you need additional information.

Yours very truly,



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cc: TVandel (NRC Site Inspector)