

TENNESSEE VALLEY AUTHORITY

CHATTANOOGA, TENNESSEE 37401

400 Chestnut Street Tower II

February 26, 1981

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:

Enclosed is our response to C. E. Murphy's February 3, 1981, letter, Inspection Report Nos. 50-553/80-18 and 50-554/80-16, regarding activities at the Phipps Bend Nuclear Plant which appeared to have been in noncompliance with NRC regulations. 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

Subscribed and sworn to before  
me this 26<sup>th</sup> day of Feb. 1981

Paulette H. White  
Notary Public

My Commission Expires 9-5-84

Enclosure

8105110373

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ENCLOSURE  
FINAL RESPONSE TO NRC LETTER  
FROM C. E. MURPHY TO H. G. PARRIS  
DATED FEBRUARY 3, 1981  
(Reference Report Nos. 50-553/80-18, 50-554/80-16)

This report responds to the Notice of Violation described in Appendix A of the OIE Inspection Report referenced above. This is a final report on the subject noncompliance.

Noncompliance Item - Severity Level V Violation - 50-553/80-18-01,  
50-554/80-16-01

- A. 10CFR50, Appendix B, Criterion V, requires that activities affecting quality shall be prescribed and accomplished in accordance with procedures. TVA procedure OCI C-207 and drawing number 4KE 0401-5K-11R requires that vertical reinforcing bars in concrete pour number KAC01-34, 37, 40, 43, be placed on 12-inch centers with a plus or minus tolerance of 2 inches.

Contrary to the above, in concrete pour number KAC01-34, 37, 40, 43 the vertical reinforcing steel was not placed in accordance with procedure and drawing requirements.

This is a Severity Level V violation (Supplement II.E.).

Response

(1) Admission of Alleged Violation

Tennessee Valley Authority agrees with the findings of the inspection.

(2) Reasons for the Violation

The following two contributing factors were found: (1) incorrect interpretation of the drawing requirements concerning the initiation point of the wall (working line), and (2) several requirements in the Quality Control Instruction C-207 were difficult to interpret (regarding number of bars to be inspected and acceptable bar spacing) and resulted in inconsistent application.

(3) Corrective Steps Taken and the Results Achieved

Engineering Design has determined that the rebar in the subject concrete pours (KAC01-34, 37, 40, and 43) is acceptable as is. No corrective action was necessary.

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(4) Corrective Steps Taken to Avoid Further Violations

- (a) Inspection personnel assigned to reinforcing inspection were instructed to correctly utilize the necessary drawings and make detailed drawing reviews for areas in reinforced concrete structures where irregularities in the rebar pattern are observed.
- (b) Tennessee Valley Authority Quality Control Instruction C-207 was revised to clarify inspection criteria.
- (c) Quality Control Inspection personnel who are directly assigned to or may be temporarily assigned to reinforcing steel inspection have been reinstructed in the use of the revised Quality Control Instruction C-207 both individually and as a group.

(5) Date When Full Compliance Will Be Achieved

TVA is now in full compliance.

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