



UNITED STATES  
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

January 26, 1998

Mr. John R. Heine, President  
Westlectric Castings, Incorporated  
2040 Camfield Avenue  
City of Commerce, California 90040

SUBJECT: NRC INSPECTION REPORT 99901323/97-01 (NOTICE OF VIOLATION  
AND NOTICE OF NONCONFORMANCE)

Dear Mr. Heine:

On November 17-19, 1997, the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) completed an inspection at your Westlectric Castings, Incorporated (Westlectric), facility. The enclosed report presents the results of that inspection.

During this inspection, the NRC inspectors noted that Westlectric personnel were knowledgeable and competent in the performance of their job functions. However, the NRC inspectors found that certain of your activities appeared to be in violation of NRC requirements. Specifically, although 10 CFR 21.21, "Notification of failure to comply or existence of a defect and its evaluation," requires that each corporation subject to Part 21 regulations adopt procedures to ensure the evaluation and proper reporting of deviations and failures to comply is performed, Westlectric did not establish an adequate procedure. This violation is cited in the enclosed Notice of Violation (NOV), and the circumstances surrounding the violation are described in detail in the enclosed report. Please note that you are required to respond to this letter and should follow the instructions specified in the enclosed NOV when preparing your response. The NRC will use your response, in part, to determine whether further enforcement action is necessary to ensure compliance with regulatory requirements.

In addition, the NRC inspectors found that the implementation of your quality assurance program failed to meet certain NRC requirements imposed on you by your customers. Specifically, the inspectors determined that compliance with 10 CFR Part 50, Appendix B, "Quality Assurance Criteria for Nuclear Power Plants and Fuel Reprocessing Plants," was contractually imposed on Westlectric in approximately 1993 by Pacific Pump (currently Ingersoll-Dresser Pump, Inc. (IDP) and Byron Jackson Pump Division (BW/IP). Although Westlectric unconditionally accepted the quality assurance (QA) provisions of 10 CFR Part 50, Appendix B, Westlectric did not establish an adequate QA program to specifically identify or address certain of the Appendix B criteria that were applicable to Westlectric activities affecting the quality of the components supplied for safety-related use.

These nonconformances are cited in the enclosed Notice of Nonconformance (NON), and the circumstances surrounding them are described in detail in the enclosed report. You are requested to respond to the nonconformances and should follow the instructions specified in the enclosed NON when preparing your response.

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Given the extent of the concerns identified by the NRC inspectors in the enclosed Inspection Report, the adequacy of the quality oversight functions for the spectrometer operations is questionable. Therefore, you are also requested to respond regarding the review that Westlectric has implemented to identify (1) whether your chemical analyses of nuclear component castings has been correctly performed, (2) whether the spectrometer operator training was adequate, (3) whether the spectrometer correction factor practice was appropriate, (4) whether any shipped casting's chemical analyses are questionable, and (5) whether appropriate quality verification activities had been performed to ensure the integrity of the spectrometer operations.

In accordance with 10 CFR 2.790 of the NRC's "Rules of Practice," a copy of this letter and its enclosures will be placed in the NRC's Public Document Room (PDR).

Sincerely,

Original signed by Suzanne C. Black

Suzanne C. Black, Chief  
Quality Assurance, Vendor Inspection  
and Maintenance Branch  
Division of Reactor Control and Human Factors  
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

- Enclosures:
1. Notice of Violation
  2. Notice of Nonconformance
  3. Inspection Report 99901320/97-01

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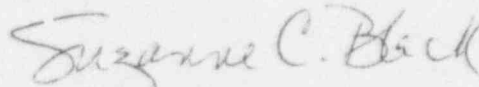
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Suzanne C. Black, Chief  
Quality Assurance, Vendor Inspection  
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Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket No. 99901323

- Enclosures: 1. Notice of Violation  
2. Notice of Nonconformance  
3. Inspection Report 99901323/97-01