

400 Chestnut Street Tower II

January 22, 1981

PBRD-50-553/81-04



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 UNIT 1 - REPORTABLE DEFICIENCY - FAILURE
TO RADIOGRAPH RPV PEDESTAL WELDS AND BYPASSING HOLD POINTS ON
CONCRETE POUR - PBRD 50-553/81-04

The deficiency involving the failure to radiograph reactor pressure vessel
pedestal welds was initially reported to NRC-OIE Region II Inspector
W. B. Swann on December 23, 1980, as NCR PBNP-175. On January 9, 1981, the
deficiency involving the bypassing of hold points during concrete pouring was
initially reported to NRC-OIE Region II Inspector R. W. Wright as NCR
PBNP-184.

In compliance with paragraph 50.55(e) of 10 CFR Part 50, we are enclosing the
first interim report on the subject deficiencies. TVA anticipates
transmitting the final report on or before April 3, 1981. 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

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

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ENCLOSURE
PHIPPS BEND NUCLEAR PLANT UNIT I
FAILURE TO RADIOGRAPH RPV PEDESTAL WELDS AND
BYPASSING HOLD POINTS ON CONCRETE POUR
10CFR50.55(e)
NCR PBRD-50-553/81-04
REPORT NO.1 (INTERIM)

On December 23, 1980, TVA informed NRC-OIE Region II Inspector, W. B. Swann, of a potentially reportable condition under 10CFR50.55(e) regarding the failure to radiograph reactor pressure vessel (RPV) pedestal welds. On January 9, 1981, TVA informed NRC-OIE Region II Inspector, R. W. Wright, of a potentially reportable condition under 10CFR50.55(e) regarding the bypassing of hold points on a concrete pour. This is the first interim report on these deficiencies. TVA anticipates transmitting the next report by April 3, 1981.

Description of Deficiency

This deficiency involves the T-bar weld joints between the upper and lower segment of the RPV pedestal. These weld joints did not receive a 10-percent radiographic examination as required by GE/CFBraun specification 300-05 and shown on GE/CFBraun drawing SK-016. The welds are presently inaccessible such that the required NDE cannot be performed because concrete has already been poured for the RPV pedestal. This pour was performed even though some hold points (including NDE) were not cleared. This represents a potential breakdown in the TVA Quality Assurance Program.

Corrective Action

TVA and GE/CFBraun are reviewing all available documentation and examination records and will evaluate this deficiency when this review is complete. TVA is also conducting an investigation with regard to the cause of this deficiency.