



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

Enclosure 1

MAY 22 1980

MEMORANDUM FOR: D. Thompson, Executive Officer for Operations Support, IE
FROM: H. D. Thornburg, Director, Division of Reactor Construction Inspection, IE
SUBJECT: SHOREHAM NUCLEAR POWER STATION INVESTIGATION REPORT NO. 50-322/79-24

As requested, RCI has reviewed the subject report and associated documents for technical validity. We have the following comments.

1. There are five locations where we question the appropriateness or accuracy of the conclusions.
 - a. On page 46, in the first sentence of allegation 22, finding b, and on page 48, in the first sentence of allegation 23, finding b, the statement is made that the condenser is not classified as a Code vessel "as the shell side is under vacuum". This conclusion is not valid. The ASME Boiler and Pressure Vessel Code, in both Section III, Nuclear Components, and Section VIII, Unfired Pressure Vessels, provides rules for design and construction of components to operate under vacuum (or external pressure). It is a true, and in our opinion, sufficient, statement that the condenser is not a safety-related unit, and is not classified as an ASME Code Vessel. We recommend the quoted phrase be deleted in both locations.
 - b. On page 47, the last sentence of the first (partial) paragraph reads, "This was confirmed by the NRC." We find no basis or support for that statement.
 - c. On page 48, the first full sentence. We do not understand the rationale for selecting the outlet tube ends for examination since, if the tubes were inserted from the outlet side, the end projection would be the only part of a tube which had not been pushed through a tube sheet or support plate. Tube end damage, if any were to be found, would most likely occur on the inlet tube end which would have been pushed through both tube sheets, and every support plate.
 - d. Page 54, the last sentence of the first (partial) paragraph. We do not understand the use of the words, "This request to withhold." We find no

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wish to acknowledge your interest in nuclear safety and encourage you to submit any additional information which might identify overlooked problem areas or which might enhance the safety of the public. Your cooperation in these matters is appreciated.

Sincerely,

Victor Stello, Jr.
Director
Office of Inspection
and Enforcement

Enclosures:

- 1. Memo, Thornburg to Thompson, dtd., 5/22/80
- 2. Memo, Grier to Thompson, dtd., 6/10/80
- 3. Memo, Grier to Stello, dtd., 6/13/80
- 4. Memo, Cummings to Thompson dtd., 7/3/80
- 5. Memo, Fortuna to Thompson dtd., 7/18/80

cc w/enclosures:

The Honorable Don Fuqua
United States House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

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